

Poor Water Supply
Page 3

Unresolved GVB Case
Page 5

Theft and Vandalism
Page 7

New Lease on Life
Page 8



STLM EXECUTIVE MAYOR LAID TO REST

The Executive Mayor of STL M Cllr Bagudi Tolo has been laid to rest, today after he succumbed to Covid-19 related complications 2nd February 2021

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

MIDDLEBURG: Tributes are continue to pour in for Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (STLM) after the untimely passing of Executive Mayor Cllr Bagudi Jonathan Tolo. The 69-year-old mayor passed away earlier on Tuesday 2 February from Covid-19 related complications.

Tolo was since admitted at the Life Midmed Hospital in Hospital on 29 December after testing positive for Covid-19. He was expected to be released from the Oxygen machine on Friday 8 January 2021, however his hospital stay was extended as his health was deteriorating and unfortunately he succumbed from the virus.

MMC for Social Development, Johan Matshiane, was deployed as acting executive mayor of STL M.

"We console ourselves by the fact that he died a heroic death, because, his passing coincides with his birthday as he was born on 2 February 1952. A death reminiscent of well-known folks such as William Shakespear and others who died on their birthdays," said STL M Municipal Manager Bheki Khenisa.

Khenisa said they are devastated by Tolo's departure as he was highly active and did his outmost in pursuit of service delivery.

"His astuteness and vigilance will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time of loss. We profusely thank the family for giving him the support and space to selflessly serve the community of the municipality

and South Africa," said the municipal manager.

The Department of Cooperative Governance Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (Coghsta) in Mpumalanga joined South Africans in mourning the late executive mayor.

The former anti-apartheid activist and freedom fighter was attached with the Coghsta in 2000.

"We have lost a warrior who was about to head the District Development Model in Nkangala District Municipality and about to turn around the economy of his municipality through a multi-million rand Township Renewal Revitalization project," said Coghsta Spokesperson George Mthethwa.

The African Naitonal Congress (ANC) in Nkangala Region, also sent heartfelt condolences to the municipality, family and friends of the late Tolo.

"The ANC in the region has received with shock the saddening news of the passing on of our gallant leader. We are saddened to lose a leader of his stature and integrity. His passion and education dedication to serving our people was well-known," said Sello Mathsoga, ANC Nkangala Regional Spokesperson.

Mathsoga described Tolo as a humble and a friendly person who treated all people with the equal measure of respect and carried himself in a dignified manner.

"While the family grieves on the passing of a father, brother, uncle and pillar of the whole broader family of Tolo,

Mpumalanga mourns the passing of the great patriot, a leader and hero of our struggle for transformation and a committed democratic who led from the front," said Mathsoga.

Democratic Alliance (DA) Caucus Leader in STL M Cllr Johan Dyson said the party is deeply saddened by Tolo's death.

"Tolo will be remembered for serving the people of this municipality with dignity. He always had a way with people and pay attention to issues brought to him by the opposition," Dyson said.

An official memorial service was held on Thursday 4 February. Speaking on behalf of the ANCYL, Cathy Makhume, said the late executive mayor had a soft heart for young people.

"Today in Steve Tshwete we have young people who have achieved so much in business, some are employed because of Tolo. He wasn't discriminating people in race and their political parties' affiliation," she said.

Umkhonto Wesizwe Veterans representative, General Mndebele described Tolo as a compatriot who was willing to take all challenges that were coming to his way.

"He took his chances to cross the heavily armed SANDF border first to Swaziland and later to Mozambique in 1982 to join the liberation struggle. He was not armed but being sustained by determination to free his people from oppression," he said.

Tolo was laid to rest on Friday 5

February in a virtual funeral service that commenced at his home in Middleburg and proceeded to the Middleburg Banquet Hall before his burial.

Tolo was born in Middleburg in 1952 and moved to Limpopo a few year later where he matriculated and obtained his teachers diploma.

He later returned to Middleburg where he worked as an educator just before he quit teaching and started with his political turmoil in the 1980s.

In the same 1980s, the late executive mayor left the country to join the ANC military wing, Umkhonto WeSizwe and returned from exile in 1990 where he returned to his teaching job.

He took a turn into politics post 1994 elections and was deployed as a Member of Provincial Legislature (MPL), serving as chief whip of the ruling party.

He then served in different structures of government including National Council of Provinces (NCOP), Coghsta, and established the Tolo Commission when chaired the Commission on Traditional Leader Disputes and Claims on national level before he was appointed executive mayor of STL M in 2018.



TWO LIFE TERMS METED AGAINST SERIAL RAPIST

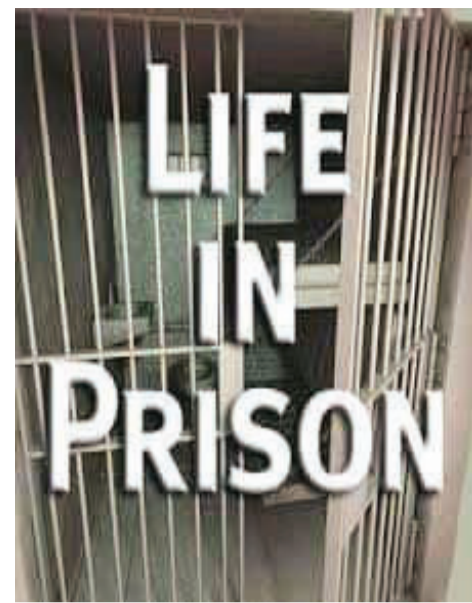
BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

KWAMHLANGA: The KwaMhlanga Regional Court has on Friday 29 January sentenced Sibusiso Charles Kabini (26), to twenty years and two life terms for rape and robbery of three women. According to the police, Kabini's reign of terror took place between July and December 2018. "According to the details of the incidences as revealed in court, during the said period, Kabini preyed on women between the ages 18 and 25. He would wait for them behind a local shopping mall at Kwamhlanga, where he would rape and rob them of their personal belongings using a knife. In one of the incidents, he un-shamefully raped a woman in front of her 5 year old child whilst on the way to a local clinic," said Mpumalanga Provincial Police Spokesperson Brigadier Leonard Hlathi. Hlathi added that Kabini's despicable acts continued where at one stage, he also raped a woman who was pregnant at the time and she too was on her way

to the local clinic. "The third victim went through a similar ordeal, after she came back from a tavern where she was also raped by the accused behind the said mall. These rape incidents were reported to the police and through a thorough investigation, they managed to arrest Kabini in December 2018. He was subsequently brought before court and with the assistance of forensic evidence obtained, Kabini was then linked to the said crime scenes at which the state managed to have a watertight case against him," Hlathi explained. Hlathi said Kabini was convicted and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, two life sentences for each rape incident and was sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment for robbery aggravating circumstances. When handing down sentence, Magistrate Marlene Grawensteyn said that the accused have no respect for both women and children. She further indicated that the incidents came as the country is battling with

crimes against women and children. Grawensteyn pointed out that Kabini showed no remorse to his victims and the sentence should serve as a lesson that the Judiciary does not take crimes against women as well as children lightly. The accused was declared unfit to possess a firearm and his particulars will be entered into the national register for sex offenders. He was also found to be unfit to work with children.

"The police management has thanked members of the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit (FCS) for their relentless efforts in preventing the accused from preying on more victims. The management is of the view that Kabini's hefty sentence, will assist the victims in their journey to find closure and healing from the unfortunate emotional trauma that they had to endure as a result of this man's vicious and lustful acts," concluded Hlathi.



The Kwamhlanga Regional Court sentenced a serial rapist Sibusiso Charles Kabini to two life terms

DROWNING TRAGEDIES AS CYCLONE ELOISE PASS MPUMALANGA

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

MPUMALANGA: The Police in Mpumalanga are sending a warning to the public to refrain from crossing, baptizing people or performing rituals in flooded rivers or dams. The warning comes after several people lost their lives recently in fast flowing water experienced in the rivers, following the passing of Cyclone Eloise. According to the police, the recent incident occurred at Mkhondo River where a 24-year-old sangoma and his trainee disappeared in the river. "On the sad day, the Sangoma together with his five trainees and one member of the public, went to the river to perform some rituals. It is said that the Sangoma dipped three trainees in the water successfully, however on the fourth trainee, things went terribly wrong as the Sangoma and the trainee disappeared in the water. Police divers were summoned to the scene where the two bodies were retrieved," said Brigadier Leonard Hlathi, Mpumalanga Provincial Police Spokesperson. Hlathi said another drowning incident occurred at Masoyi near Hazyview, where a five-year-old boy became a victim of drowning, after he was attempting to cross the Sukani River together with his mother. "Reports

suggest that the devastating incident occurred on Sunday, 24 January 2021, where the boy who was held by his mother, fell into the water after slipping from her hands and unfortunately drowned. An inquest docket was registered and the body of the boy has since been retrieved by police divers," he said. Hlathi indicated that in a separate incident, a 40-year-old man's body was also recovered at Pilgrim's Rest after his sudden disappearance at a nearby river. "The matter was reported at the local police station on 25 January 2021. The police divers were summoned where the man's body was retrieved and an inquest docket was registered," detailed Hlathi. He added that in another sad event that occurred earlier on Tuesday 26 January, the body of a one-year-old boy was discovered in a ditch full of water at Nkaba Trust in Elukwatini, after the boy was last seen playing and moments later, his body was found. "The police are worried by these incidents because since the beginning of summer, a number of people have drowned in different parts of the province and as a result, police are appealing to the public to avoid the danger of getting into flooded rivers and dams. Parents are also warned and



The police in Mpumalanga are sending a stern warning to residents to avoid crossing or performing rituals in flooding rivers following a number of drowning cases recently

urged to look after their children more over now that schools are still closed as more heavy rain was experienced in

some parts of the province and more still expected," he said.

ANC COUNCILLOR ARRESTED AFTER ASSAULTING A POLICE OFFICER

BY MOLOGADI KEKANA

EMAKHAZENI: ANC ward Councillor Themba Masha and his accomplices were arrested for assaulting a female police officer and charged with assault, intimidation and attack on a police. Masha was arrested after attacking a female police officer Constable Moriri outside the Waterval Boven police station on 28 December and released on bail on 30 December. Masha who is a ward councillor at Waterval Boven allegedly also sells chicken dust and alcohol in a container. He was further alleged to be renting a Liquor licence in a Tititi bottle store belonging to a certain Shikwambane business owner in Waterval Boven. It is further reported by the police that when Masha was confronted by the police after they discovered he was selling alcohol illegally, he began swearing at the police constable and called her names. The notorious councillor did not comply with the police' orders to remove his stock but instead turned his back and left. When Constable

arrived at the police station gate with the station Commander Warrant officer Maseko he found Masha's car and 15 of his accomplices parked outside the Waterval Boven police station enraged. Masha and his accomplices who allegedly blocked the entrance of the police station charged towards the police officers. Masha and 15 of his gang including Fikiso Mazibuko, Mbongiseni Madonsela, Comfort Mashele, Sphamandla Sekwane, Sibusiso Tshela and Dawn Masha physically attacked Constable Moriri saying they will teach her a lesson for doing her duties as a police officer as it did not favour them. A case of assault, intimidation and attack on a police officer was opened against Masha and his accomplices who were allegedly arrested on the same day. Masha and his accomplices' first court appearance was on 13 January. Constable Moriri has expressed her concern for safety as police officers in the small town of Waterval Boven and being attacked simply for performing their duties. Mpumalanga

SAPS Spokesperson Leonard Hlathi condemned the cowardly behaviour of this councillor Masha and his gang attacking a police officer. "Police strongly condemn the unruly behavior of the suspects. We request the community not to emulate what these suspects. Attacking a police officer is attacking the state and their conduct is not condoned", said Hlathi. *Timeless News* requested a response and reaction from the Emakhazeni Local Municipality Speaker Nomhle Mashele firstly on how they have dealt with Masha as an elected member of the ruling party and ward leader expected to lead by example. Mashele said the Emakhazeni local municipality is aware of the allegations levelled against Masha. "The matter is before the court of law. We will look at the matter once is being finalized by the court", said Mashele. Masha and his accomplices are expected to reappear at the Waterval Boven Court on 3 March for the charges levelled against them.



CYCLONE ELOISE MAKES LANDFALL IN MPUMALANGA

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

KWAGGAFONTEIN: Tropical Cyclone Eloise, which developed in Madagascar, has made its landfall in Mpumalanga Province. The tropical storm has left thousands of people displaced in Mozambique and left hundreds without shelter in Mpumalanga, Limpopo and KwaZulu Natal Provinces. Mpumalanga Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA) Spokesperson, George Mthethwa said they have received a report about a number of houses that were destroyed at Mkhuhlu Municipality, in the Bushbuckridge area. "We also got reports from the Thembisile Hani Local Municipality that they are also having the same situation," he said. However, Thembisile Hani Local Municipality Spokesperson, Simphiwe Mashiane told Timeless News that there were no incidents reported in their disaster management unit. Mthethwa said in the Nkomazi Municipality, the department received news that at Block B, some houses had roofs blown away and some walls collapsed. "For now there are no fatalities but families are being displaced and we are working to help them. We are also monitoring the rains and calling for all our people staying on low-laying areas to be on high alert and always try not to cross flooding



Tropical storm Eloise flooded roads and left other devastating effects after passing at some parts of Mpumalanga Province

rivers either by foot or vehicles," he said. Mthethwa said the storm had also affected the parts of Komatipoort, Sabie and Graskop where a number of houses

had their roofs blown away and wall collapsing. Despite contingency plans put in place by disaster management teams in various municipalities,

following an alert by the South African Weather Service (SAWS), many affected people are still displaced according to reports.

SAHRC FLAG STHLM FOR POOR WATER SUPPLY

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

KWAGGAFONTEIN: The Thembisile Hani Local Municipality (THLM) has been found violating residents' rights of access to basic water supply. This is according to the report released by the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC). Democratic Alliance (DA) and concerned community members lodged a complaint with the municipality and the SAHRC in 2016 about the water shortages. In response to the DA and concerned community members complaint, the SAHRC enquired with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) where they were informed that R22 Million was used to drill 49 boreholes to supplement water shortages in the area. According to DA Councillor in Thembisile Hani Local Municipality, Joseph Sibanyoni, the party lodged a complaint following the plight of residents who turn to dirty streams and wells to fetch drinking water. "Since 2013, the people of Thembisile Hani Local Municipality have lived with insufficient water supply. The municipality had failed numerous times to bring forward valid reasoning as to why it cannot supply water to them. Some residents had no choice, but to get water from a nearby stream which is shared with animals," Sibanyoni said. Sibanyoni added that along with SAHRC, they were informed by DWS that it has appointed the Nkangala District Municipality (NDM) as an implementing agent to supply 20 Megalitre of water a day to the area as temporary measure, until it can connect through Loskop Bulk Water project. "As the said temporary interventions took place, the DA conducted an oversight where we discovered there are no boreholes feeding water to the treatment plant in the municipality. We also discovered that the Moloto treatment plant is also not functional due to stolen pipes," said Sibanyoni.

He added that they discovered that water shortage persists in many parts of the municipality as water leaks are not fixed and they are visible as one drives around the area.

"The Bundu water scheme is not yet commissioned because the implementation day is shifted all the

time. The DA therefore concluded that the temporary intervention plan was not working at all. This prompted the DA to lodge another formal complaint with the SAHRC in November 2018. The DA wanted the SAHRC to investigate if the (DWS) is not failing in discharging the mandate of providing water in the municipality," explained Sibanyoni.

In its preliminary findings, dated 22 January 2021, the SAHRC reported the following:

- Water access challenges within the municipality have been established.
- The water access challenges constitute a violation of residents' right of access to basic water supply.
- The measures taken by the municipality, with the assistance of DWS, to address the identified challenges are not reasonable in their conception and implementation, as they do not appear to be capable of realizing residents' right of access to basic water supply in the short to long term, and exclude the poor.

The SAHRC then directed the municipality to do the following:

- Within 3 months of the final report, the municipality must submit a revised council approved plan for addressing the water access challenges within its jurisdiction.
- The Municipality and DWS must jointly reconsider the Loskop Dam Bulk Project insofar as it pertains to the Municipality, with the view to aligning the projected water supply from the project with future water demand.

- Within 14 days of the report, the municipality must submit a report on the efficacy of its borehole project. In this regard, the report must indicate the number of boreholes drilled.

- Within 14 days of the report, the municipality must submit a report on the status of its Moses Water Project.

"The DA welcomes the directives given the SAHRC to the municipality and DWS. We urge them to take this directives seriously and implement it because residents of Thembisile Hani cannot wait for another four years to get water. The DA will continue to monitor the situation closely," concluded Sibanyoni.



SAHRC report revealed that Thembisile Hani Local Municipality violates rights of residents to get basic services after communities draw drinking water from rivers and streams

TIMELESS NEWS
"Thought Leaders in Community News"

VACANCY - SALES

TIMELESS NEWS is looking for a candidate that is passionate about Sales.

Earning potential is massive with incentives achieved through targets and extensive growth potential both in and around the areas we serve. Must be deadline and target driven, able to attract new clients, excellent communication skills, good team player. Are you a habitual goal setter and achiever, do you thrive on challenges, are you a good listener, getting the best from your colleagues, fellow execs/managers and your team?

Requirements:

Personal skills/attributes

Confident

Motivated

Goal setter

Self-sufficient

Good energy levels

Strong time-management

At least one year media sales experience

If you feel like this job is perfect for you, sell us on why you should be hired anyway.

Email your CV to: timelessnews371@gmail.com

Contact: **Editor on 072 525 4778**

MEC MANZINI ON A MISSION TO CURB COVID-19

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

MAMETLHAKE: Sasekani Manzini accompanied by the Executive Mayor of Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality, Cllr Rhoda Sazi Mathabe have recently visited Mmametlhake Hospital and Mmametlhake Community Health Centre. Manzini visited the health facilities to get update on the progress made to curb the spread of Covid-19.

MEC Manzini was happy with the availability of Oxygen and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in both health institutions. Manzini emphasized the importance of maintaining adequate PPE stock levels to enable healthcare workers to have uninterrupted access to the protective gear, required to perform their duties and for their personal safety at workplace. The MEC urged the staff, management and the community at large to continue to adhere to systems put in place to ensure compliance to Covid-19 precautionary measures, including the practice of social distancing, wearing of masks and washing of hands or sanitizing. She also encouraged the public to avoid gatherings or crowded places. The MEC further expressed gratitude to all frontline Health workers and management for their heroic self-



MEC for Department of Health in Mpumalanga, Sasekani Manzini (Left), during her visit at Mametlhake Hospital in Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality to get update on the progress made to curb the spread of Covid-19

sacrifice and extraordinary humanness that has saved many lives. Meanwhile Manzini paid an unannounced visit to Piet Retief Hospital and Phola Park Clinic at Mkhondo Local Municipality

to continue with the same programme. The MEC was satisfied with compliance at the health facilities after her monitoring and assessment programme. The continual programme of the

MEC is aiming to oversee the Health Department's effort in curbing the spread of Covid-19 resurgence across the province.

MEC VISITS STEVE TSHWETE CORONAVIRUS HOTSPOTS

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

MIDDLEBURG: The MEC for Health Department in Mpumalanga Sasekani Manzini has recently visited Covid-19 hotspots in Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (STLM). MEC Manzini visited the area to monitor compliance and safety protocols amid the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic. STLM was declared as one on the Covid-19 hotspots by the Department of Health in the province after the resurgence of Coronavirus pandemic. Following the declaration that Steve Tshwete Local Municipality is one of the hotpot Municipality in the Province. The MEC for Health Sasekani Manzini came to see for herself if COVID-19 protocols are adhered to, particularly to the identified hotspot areas within the Municipality. Manzini, accompanied by Acting Executive Mayor Cllr Johan Matsiane together with MMC for Safety and Community Services Cllr Diphala Motsepe, monitored compliance at Middleburg Mall, Iraq Taxi Rank and Mhluzi Mall in Middleburg. The MEC and the municipality outrage later

went to visit Mashiteng Clinic to get an update on the utilization of the Primary Clinic Based Model in relation to Covid-19 resurgence. Manzini encouraged the public to adhere to Covid-19 regulations, particularly in public places and crowded spaces. "Covid-19 health protocols should be adhere to, particularly to the identified areas within identified hotspot municipalities," Manzini said. She encouraged the public to be more vigilant as the second wave of Covid-19 infection is much worse than the first one. "The only way to flatten the curve, is to take responsibility for one's health. Stay at home. Wear your mask. Sanitize Maintain social distance," she said.

Over 59 000 Covid-19 cases were reported in Mpumalanga. More than 51 400 people recovered from the virus while over 6 700 people succumbed from Covid-19 complications. More than 1.4 Million tested positive for the virus in the country, with 1.2 Million recoveries and more than 41 000 people succumbed from the pandemic.



MEC for Health in Mpumalanga Province Sasekani Manzini paid homage to Steve Tshwete Local Municipality Covid-19 hotspots to monitor compliance

DRUGS KINGPIN GETS 20 YEARS DIRECT IMPRISONMENT

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

SECUNDA: The Secunda Regional Court has on Thursday 28 January 2021, sentenced Enzani Wiseman Shongwe (31), to 20 years direct imprisonment for manufacturing and dealing in drugs. According to the Hawks in Mpumalanga, the accused was arrested in August 2016 with nine drug syndicate members.

"They were arrested by the Hawks' Serious Organized Crime Investigation unit in Secunda during the termination of a project driven investigation.

The "Project 24" Operation was targeting the manufacturing and dealing in drugs around Secunda," said Captain Dineo Lucy Sekgotodi, Mpumalanga Hawks Provincial Spokesperson.

Sekgotodi said the eight other suspects admitted guilt on the open trial and were sentenced in 2018 to a total of 144 years combined imprisonment.

"However, Shongwe opted to go for

trial and appeared several times in the same court whilst he remained in custody since his arrest in 2016," she said. Sekgotodi said Shongwe was found guilty on all charges and sentenced to 15 years direct imprisonment on each of the three counts of dealing in drugs.

"The first two of the three sentences will be running concurrently and the judge ordered that the accused serve an effective minimum of 20 years direct imprisonment," Sekgotodi said.

The Provincial Head of the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation (Hawks) Major General Zodwa Mokoena welcomed the sentence and applauded the team for the great work. "We hope that this will serve as deterrent to those who are still committing such type of crimes," said Major General Mokoena.



The Secunda Regional Court has sentenced a drug kingpin Enzani Wiseman Shongwe to 20 years behind bars

ANOTHER UNRESOLVED GBV CASE



Bruises sustained by Chantel Bruce after being allegedly assaulted by Posthumus

Posthumus who allegedly assaulted his partner Chantel Bruce

BY MOLOGADI KEKANA

WATERVAL BOVEN: Chantel Bruce, 29 says she was never informed about the release of her ex husband and alleged violator Jacobus Posthumus, 33 from police custody.

After she opened a case of assault at the Waterval Boven South African Police Service, Bruce said she was surprised to find out that Posthumus was out roaming the streets again without any court appearance or any communication from the police on the status of the investigation. Bruce said even the police detective was not aware why Posthumus was out and said she was not aware whether he appeared before court or not. Posthumus was arrested for allegedly assaulting his partner Bruce and their 11 year-old son on the evening of 31 January. Posthumus was allegedly

drunk when he arrived home that evening and began accusing Bruce of cheating, "He said to me why is it that I don't want him to hear that I am talking to my boyfriend on the phone. I then asked him what he is talking about since I know no one here [Waterval Boven], since I am not from here", Bruce said.

"Then he started throwing my sound system out of the door and I stood in front of the door to stop him from throwing my things out... but then I just stood there and the next minute he hit me with a fist. My son saw it, he came and tried to push him off me and that is when he hit my son with a fist. I tried to push him off my son and he started throwing me and my son around",

"He eventually got us out of the door and slammed my head against the washing machine that is outside by

the door and told his mother who lives nearby that if she opens for us he will come to burn the house and so his mother also locked the doors on us. My son and I were left out in the rain and had nowhere else to go", said Bruce.

Bruce and her son had to stay over at a friend's place until she could find a safer place to stay. On 4 February she reported that she was making her way back to her home in Boksburg.

Bruce was married to Posthumus for nine years, before they divorced in 2019 and got back together in November 2020. She and her son had to resort to living with a friend until she moved the rest of her belongings out of the flat which she shared with Posthumus. According to Bruce, Posthumus has a tendency to act aggressive when he is drunk. An enquiry regarding the

reason why Posthumus was released from police custody without informing Bruce was sent to Mpumalanga SAPS Spokesperson Leonard Hlathi via calls and text who said is contacting the investigating officer on the status of the investigation of the case. Hlathi reported that the investigating officer on the case reported that the minor, the 11-year old's statement was not taken but only the statement of the mother of the suspect was taken therefore that is why the suspect was released through the police bail. Timeless News has previously received allegations of unresolved gender based violence cases at the Waterval Boven police station or suspects being released with no prior notification to the complainants or the status of the investigation of similar cases to say the least.



Julius Malema and former President Jacob Zuma flanked by Vuyo Pampo(EFF Spokesperson) Mzwandile Masina (Executive Mayor of Ekurhuleni) Tony Yengeni (ANC NEC Member) and Advocate Dali Mpofu posed for pictures after drinking tea together in Nkandla which was dubbed the meeting of "black people"

TWO SUSPECTS IN THE DOCK FOR COUNTERFEIT FUEL CARDS

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

EMALAHLENI: Two suspects, Kenneth Maoto(35) and Reginaldo Nuvunga (34) appeared before the eMalahleni District Court last week Monday following a charge of fraud. The duo was arrested in Witbank by the Hawks' Serious Commercial Crime Investigation team on Friday 22 January 2021, for the alleged fraudulent transactions with counterfeit fleet fuel cards. According to Captain Dineo Lucy Sekgotodi, Mpumalanga Provincial Hawks Spokesperson, the suspects were arrested after attempting to use counterfeit cards in the alleged fraudulent transaction at Vaalbank in eMalahleni. "The pair were initially arrested on Friday 15 January 2021, by the Vaalbank Detective Services after

presenting two counterfeit fleet cards for fuel payment at the local Puma Garage. Investigations by the Hawks further linked the duo to additional similar fraudulent transactions," Sekgotodi said. She added that the suspects were consequently charged for at least two transactions that occurred at Witbank garages in January 2021.

"They were arrested in Court following their appearance for their earlier offence," she said. Sekgotodi said during the investigations, it was discovered that the suspects had fraudulently created counterfeit fuel cards for fleet under two different companies. "The fraudulent transactions amount to just over R110 000. Police will investigate further whilst they remain in custody," concluded Sekgotodi.



The Hawks arrested two suspects, Kenneth Maoto and Reginaldo Nuvunga in charges relating to fraudulent transactions with counterfeit fleet fuel cards

A PARK HOUSE BURNT TO ASHES IN PHOLA



Police Still Investigating The Pending Case of a park home house that burnt to ashes

BY NOTHANDO MAKHUBELA

PHOLA : A house caught fire and burned to ashes in the early hours of Monday, 1 February 2021 in a park home house stand no: 790 Masango street in Phola, Emalahleni.

According to reports, Police alleged said that during the incident, the house was occupied by four people. Fortunately it has been reported to Timeless News that fierce fire didn't hurt anyone. Phola police station spokesperson Sgt

Thabang Ntuli said "Allegedly during the incident, the house was occupied by 4 people and luckily none of them was hurt or injured. All the furniture was burned as well including everything inside hence the victims are only left with what they are currently wearing."

Said Sgt Ntuli. "All the role players were called to the scene including the fire fighting department. The cause of the fire is unknown and the case has opened, pending investigation. "He added.

DEAD BODY OF UNKNOWN MAN FOUND IN BUSHES

BY NOTHANDO MAKHUBELA

EMALAHLENI: The Witbank Police still looking for the murder suspects who allegedly dumped a body of man estimated to be age between 24 - 30 years. The police discovered an unknown body of a male dumped last week Thursday morning at 11:00 am in deep bushes at Blesboklaage, Emalahleni.

The unidentified male body was reportedly found by a community member who was busy collecting fire wood for household use.

The unknown witness alleged alerted a local farmer at Blesboklaage to inform the South African Community Crime Watch (SACCW) and Witbank police station.

According to reports, from the Police After the station received a call. "Witbank Police went to the scene and

found the body of a male who was lying on his stomach with his hands cuffed behind his back, the body also had stab wounds on the neck and his feet were burnt."

Witbank Police they're still in search for the murder suspects and urging the community in Blesboklaage to help assist with any information regarding the murder.

Mpumalanga Police Spokesperson Brigadier Leonard Hlathi condemns the high rate number of murder cases reported daily in Emalahleni.

The motive for the killing is still unknown. Anyone with information can contact the investigating officer Captain Dick Masango on 079 551 2708 or crime stop on 086001011.



Witbank Police in search for murder suspects linked to the unidentified male body found thrown at Blesboklaage bushes in Emalahleni

THEFT AND VANDALISM ROCKED DR JS MOROKA MUNICIPALITY

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

SIYABUSWA: The Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality urges community members to refrain from acts of theft and vandalism of municipal infrastructure and properties. This is after the municipality sustained damages in its infrastructure depriving communities of much needed services. "Theft and vandalism of municipal properties and infrastructure hinders service delivery and exert financial strain in the municipal coffers," said Thisha Mhlanga, Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality Administrator. Mhlanga said the municipality experienced unprecedented spates of theft and damage of the institution's infrastructure in the space of one week. The drought stricken municipality has experienced similar incidents at its V3 Water Project and Sewage Plant recently. Mhlanga has urged communities and those committing this heinous acts to be mindful of the municipality's state of affairs when

it comes to water provision. "The municipality has been affected by drought thus, having an adverse impact on provision of water to communities, we therefore ought to guide against any acts that seeks to undermine our efforts to ensure that every Dr JS Local Municipality resident has access to water," he said. Mhlanga noted that the municipality, with its fiscal position and limited budget, wants to ensure water provision in a financially sound and sustainable manner. "The costs of repairs and replacements of stolen or vandalized property weighs heavily on the finances of the municipality, it is just not sustainable," Mhlanga emphasized. Mhlanga added that inevitably ripple effects of these acts is that other essential services and projects will be put on hold. "Residents are urged to safeguard and protect the municipality infrastructure by reporting incidents of theft and vandalism to the police. We cannot triumph over this war without the collaboration and help of

our communities. We call upon our residents to work with us and be alive to threats posed by draught in our Municipality", urged Mhlanga. Whilst pleading with communities, Mhlanga called upon SAPS to act swiftly against perpetrators on already opened cases of theft and vandalism of the municipal property. The administrator reiterated that the municipality management is committed to turn around the institution and ensuring reliable service delivery to residents. Earlier this year, hundreds of residents in the municipality were left without water after cable thieves vandalized a water pump station at Kameelrivier, causing a dysfunctional system of water supply to various villages.

The Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality caution the community to safe guard municipal infrastructure after theft and vandalism incidents where cables and water pumping equipment were among stolen property



INSPIRATION AND MOTIVATION

BY MYSTIQ REFLECTIVE HEALING

MIND, BODY AND SOUL: Do you lack the enthusiasm to live the life you want? Do you keep setting new goals but never see them through?

If you lack the zest for pursuing your goals, then you may be facing problems with self-motivation. You need to stop looking for permission and help if you wish to achieve greatness. Getting inspired and being motivated empowers you to work towards accomplishing your goals and objectives. However, we cannot feel motivated all the time. Life happens and we often lose the drive that keeps us focused. With the right amount of motivation, we can transform an idea into instant action. It helps you turn positive thoughts into effective efforts that can impact your world in a positive way. Below, you can find all the inspiration and motivation you will ever need to be the best you can be.

15 New Skills To Learn For Rapid Self-Improvement

When it comes to experiencing rapid self-improvement in your life, there are quite a few important skills that can help you achieve this goal and stick to them permanently. Personal development doesn't just happen. You can't expect to be bitten by a radioactive arachnid and wake up the next day with new skills. Self-development requires hard work, dedication, and an ever-growing skillset. So, what new skills do you need to power forward? There's no one-size-fits-all answer, but these 15 new skills are great places to start. All skills have value, but some are more helpful than others when it comes to your self-development. Adding these to your arsenal will increase the pace of your growth.

1. Goal Setting

On your journey toward your best self, you need to set goals. The key is balance: If your goals are too lofty, you'll get discouraged when you fall short. Start too small, and you'll become satisfied with your progress too early and stop pushing yourself forward. The better approach is to think about milestones. If you want to be a novelist, don't set a goal to finish a book in a week. Focus on getting a couple of pages done each day, or on writing a chapter each week. This measurable progress is more sustainable and fulfilling.

2. Stress Management

Personal growth can create a lot of stress. "Growth and comfort do not coexist." — Ginny Rometty, former CEO of IBM

To keep going when times are tough, you have to learn how to manage your stress

levels. If brisk walks help you keep your head on straight, schedule one for your lunch period every day. If you need to take Sundays off to recharge for the next week, it's more than acceptable to do so.

3. Organization

Organization is a skill that comes more naturally to some people than others. If you're a naturally messy person, start small. Otherwise, you'll get overwhelmed. Focus on the places where you spend the most time. Clean up your bedroom or vacuum your car. If physical cleaning is stressful, start by culling files from your computer. Believe it or not, one clean space can set the tone for the rest of your life.

4. Problem Solving

On the road to personal development, you'll run into some barriers. Nobody but you can remove these from your path. That's why problem-solving is a vital skill for self-development. Perhaps anxiety is keeping you from doing your best work. Instead of struggling through it, quietly take a mental health day. "You absolutely don't need to disclose why you're taking a sick day. Don't let personal challenges stand in the way of your growth. If you can solve them, do — and don't let anyone give you flak for it.

5. Time Management

To master yourself, you must master your time. You only get so much of it, and every minute wasted is a minute you'll never get back. The good news is, time management is a skill that transcends every situation. Time management is about the power of routine. You can use an online calendar to give your day more structure. You can develop morning and nightly rituals to promote better sleeping habits. When in doubt, replace idle time with projects geared toward new skills. If your goal is to learn to bake, spend an hour making muffins rather than scrolling through social media.

6. Work Ethic

You can wish for something all you want. But if you're not willing to put in the work, you won't actually achieve it. The first step is acknowledging the work you need to do for personal development. The second is actually getting your hands dirty. If you want to squat a certain amount of weight, you have to spend hours in the gym. Simply imagining yourself becoming stronger will do nothing.

7. Accountability

You are responsible for your own actions. Hold yourself accountable to them. The sooner you do, the quicker you can get back on track after making a mistake. If

your personal development slows down because you opted to sleep in instead of getting up early to work out, don't blame the cold, grey morning. You made that choice.

8. Networking

The fast track to self-development is through networking. By connecting with other professionals in your field, you gain access to the wisdom of those with more experience than you. The internet makes networking incredibly easy. Social media sites like LinkedIn allow you to connect with workers and leaders from all corners of the globe. Make meaningful connections, and they'll give you not just something to aspire to, but a helping hand along that path.

9. Empathy

The people around you impact your self-development more than you might realize. Treating them with empathy cracks the door not just to compassion and understanding, but to all sorts of mentorship opportunities. Remember, mentorship is a two-way street. Mentors benefit just as much from the arrangement as mentees do. One study of CFOs who mentored others found the top benefit they cited was improving their own leadership skills.

10. Self-Control

Self-development is no walk in the park. In challenging times, you'll be tempted to find comfort in relaxing activities, such as playing video games or scrolling through social media. In order to truly progress, though, you have to learn self-control. Smartphones in particular are a threat to self-control. The average person spends hours per day on their mobile devices. If you fall into that bucket, ask yourself: How could you use that time more productively?

11. Patience

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." — An old Chinese proverb

Remember no meaningful goal is achieved overnight. Be patient. Self-development is a process that can take years, even decades. Don't beat yourself up if you don't see immediate progress. Take pride and find joy in even your smallest accomplishments.

12. Resilience

When the going gets tough, the tough get going. In other words, you have to push yourself through hard situations. Every time you throw in the towel, you lose the momentum that's difficult to get back. Resilience is a skill acquired through struggle. That may not sound

encouraging when looking for quick self-development, but you'll soon see the power that comes from never giving up.

13. Balance

Spend all your time at your profession, and you'll become a master of your trade. Spend all your time with family, and you'll have wonderful relationships — but fewer skills and a much smaller bank account. The key to getting the best of all worlds is balance. If you're tired of working on one thing, take a break. You can always come back later when you're feeling more up to it.

14. Self-Care

Self-care means different things to different people, as it should. But the overarching truth holds for everyone: If you don't care for your health, you won't see the self-growth you want. Make time to exercise regularly, either at home or at a local gym. Choose a diet that will supply you with the nutrients you need, and stay hydrated. Meditate at least once per day. And if you're having trouble managing your health on your own, reach out to a professional.

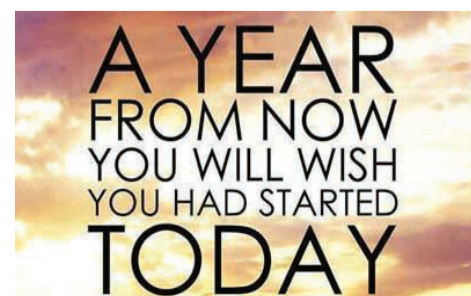
15. Sacrifice

What do you have to give up to achieve your goals? When it comes to personal development, there's always something. When you're learning a new skill — especially if you also work full-time — you can't spend the night socializing with friends. You may even need to sacrifice your weekends. While it's important to find time to enjoy life, this isn't the same as indulgence. Too much of any good thing is bad. Be prepared to give up a few pleasures in service to your self-development.

For Best Results, Start Today!

Developing all of these skills is a tall order. You'll find, however, that in doing so you'll already have made a lot of progress. Use that progress to push even harder. Keep honing your skills, and you'll see just how life-changing self-development can be.

Look out for our next article on Motivation - If You're Looking For Change In Your Life, Start With Yourself





TIMELESS SPORT

TS GALAXY ENJOYING NEW LEASE ON LIFE UNDER DA GAMA



TS Galaxy FC has regain consistency of winning games after the arrival of Owen Da Gama as new head coach

BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO

NKANGALA: After going through turbulent times before the regime of new Head Coach, Owen Da Gama, The Rockets have returned to glory days.

The former South African Under-23 mentor has changed the fortunes of Galaxy since taking over the coaching reins. After four games at the helm, Da Gama has produced two victories, one stalemate and suffered one defeat.

In their recent match played against Black Leopards on Saturday 30 January at Thohoyandou Stadium in Venda, The Rockets trashed Lidoda Duvha 3-0 in the Dstv Premiership clash. Wayde Lekay, Bathusi Aubaas and Mxolisi

Macuphu were on the score sheet for The Rockets. Lekay broke the deadlock in the 35th minutes. Sibusiso Khumalo fouled the menacing, Lindokuhle Mbatha in the box and was penalized.

Macuphu stepped up to take the penalty but his effort was saved by King Ndlovu. The rebound fell in to the path of Lekay who slotted the ball in to the back of the net. The game went in to the interval with the Rockets leading 1-0 by Lekay' solitary strike. After the interval, Aubaas opened his account for the season. Luckyboy Mokoena curled in a dangerous ball in to the box from a corner kick but Ndlovu came out his line to punch the ball. It fell in to Aubaas who finished with aplomb. Mxolisi Macuphu

added the third with a thumping header, while assisted by Lindokuhle Mbatha. Black Leopards were reduced to 10 men after Sibongiseni Mthethwa was shown the red card for a dangerous play on Mokoena. Two weeks ago, TS Galaxy defeated Maritzburg 3-0 and strived for consistency to draw their match played with Orlando Pirates at Orlando Stadium on Tuesday 26 January. TS Galaxy marksman, Wayde Lekay called for consistency in the team following their victories. "It is a great feeling to win again and get three points after so many games without a win. It is going to be very key for us to go out there and show consistency. It becomes very important for us to pick up three points

because we don't want to see ourselves in that last position once again," he said.

Lekay scored in the Maritzburg United and Black Leopard games. "Scoring a goal always gives you an extra bit of confidence. It is about taking it and applying it to the next game. Obviously not getting big headed but ensuring that you still get in to good positions. I'm enjoying myself under coach, Owen. He told me from the first day that I need to get in to good areas. It's been great under coach, Owen as well as coach, Shaun Bartlett helping the attackers to get in to good areas," Lekay said.

After their win over Black Leopards, The Rockets kept their unbeaten run on the road intact.