

TIMELESS NEWS

"Thought Leaders in Community News"



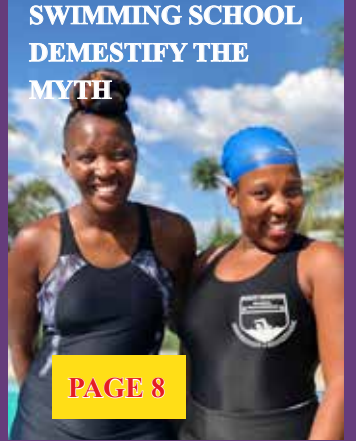
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MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD FOR SLAIN MOGANYAKA TEENAGER

by Eric Matome Kgomo
MOGANYAKA

Last week Thursday Scores of community members from Moganyaka Village outside Marble Hall in Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality , converged at Moganyaka Mandela Park to attend a memorial service of the slain 17-year-old Dineo Phokgole.

The victim was allegedly raped and brutally murdered by unknown people a fortnight ago. The lifeless body of the victim was discovered by members of the community inside the river.

Phokgole was a Grade 10 pupil at Ngwana Kwena Secondary School. Her memorial service was also attended by fellow learners, teachers, community members from neighbouring villages and representatives from the Department of Social Development.

During the proceedings, the victim was described as a humble person who was taking her studies seriously.

A community member, Lidia Mashilo, described Dineo Phokgole as a well-mannered girl, adding that they were shattered by her death.

"We are living in fear because the people who murdered Dineo are still roaming the streets. We are calling for the police to act swiftly and arrest the perpetrators," she said.

Another community member, Sylvia Mohlala, said acts of Gender Based Violence (GBV) are perpetuating and prevalent in the area.

"We are worried because it is now becoming a norm that women are being victimized in this area lately where some of these perpetrators are even family members or people close to the victims. Our main concern is that the police are not acting enough to make sure that those who perform these evil



acts are arrested and prosecuted," she said.

Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said an inquest docket was opened at Motetema Police Station and is under investigation.

"The police opened a case following the discovery of the body of a 17-year-old girl, of Moganyaka Village who was found dead in a well at the village. It is alleged that the victim left home promising that she will back soon but she never returned," he said.

Ledwaba said the deceased had no visible injuries and her cause of death has not yet established.

"A post-mortem is still to be conducted to determine the cause of death. Police investigations are continuing," he said.

Scores of women acting in solidarity to condemn GBV acts during memorial service of the slain Dineo Phokgole held at Moganyaka Mandela Park.

"We are living in fear because the people who murdered Dineo are still roaming the streets. We are calling for the police to act swiftly and arrest the perpetrators,"

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MEDICOS PERFORMS 22 PROCEDURES AT JANE FURSE HOSPITAL



Rural Health Matters specialists performing operations in Jane Furse Hospital to reduce surgical backlogs.



BY ERIC MATOME KGOMO
JANE FURSE

The Limpopo Department of Health's District Rural Health Matters Outreach Programme is currently ongoing in Sekhukhune District Municipality hospitals.

The project started since last week Tuesday by a team of med-

ical and dental specialists who are rendering services in the district's hospitals aiming to reduce surgery backlogs.

The specialists comprises of Paediatrics Surgeons, Ophthalmologists, Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeons, Radiologists, Orthopaedics Surgeons, Urologists, ENT

Surgeons, Obstetricians & Gynecologists, Maxillo Facial Surgeons, Anaesthesiologists, Physicians, Hand and Micro Surgery Specialists and General Surgeons.

Through the project, a team of Orthopedics, led by Professor Matshidze, concluded their operations at Philadelphia Hospital in

MISSING TEENAGER'S BODY FOUND, WHILE THE SUSPECT WAS STONED TO DEATH



The decomposed body of Kabelo Malatji was found at a villager's house after she went missing while going to school.

By Eric Matome Kgomo
MOTLOLO

The outraged community members of Motlolo Village outside Driekop, have stoned to death a 39-year-old man after the body of 13-year-old Kabelo Malatji found inside his house.

The teenager's decomposed body was found at Calvin Mohlala's house on Tuesday 28 March, following her disappearance on Friday 24 March, intending to attend extra classes at a nearby school.

A case of missing person was opened at the Driekop Police Station and an immediate search for the victim was conducted at relatives and surrounding villages without any success.

Brigadier Motlafela Mojapelo, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the shocking discovery of the victim's body was made by Mohlala's neighbours after noticing unpleasant odour that was apparently detected from his residence and immediately informed the police.

"Upon arrival, police forced entry and found the lifeless body of the teenager in a decomposed state and a murder case was opened at Driekop Police Station," he said.

Denilton and St Rita's Hospitals in Glen Cowie over the weekend.

During the outreach, the team managed to perform 21 joint replacements, working tirelessly to achieve their goal.

General surgery team managed to perform 22 procedures at Jane Furse Hospital and still continuing until with the same programme in the hospital.

Procedures performed at Jane Furse Hospital so far includes six inguinal hernia repair, 3 hydrocelectomy, five umbilical hernia repair, one exploratory for ectopic pregnancy, one biopsy for breast fibro adenoma, four excision of lapoma, one total thyroidectomy and 1 haemorrhoidectomy.

Obstetric and gynae team managed to perform five procedures, consisting of 3 hysterectomies and two colposcopies at Meck-



Calvin Mohlala was stoned to death by angry residents shortly after the decomposed body of the missing Kabelo Malatji was discovered by villagers at his residence.

Mojapelo added shortly after the discovery, members of the community mobilized to locate the suspected man in whose house the body found and he was subsequently found while hiding in the same village and stoned to death at about 19:00.

"The police were called and on arrival at the scene, they found the victim with severe wounds. He was later declared dead by the members of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS)," he said.

Mojapelo said a manhunt for the unknown suspects have since been launched and anyone with information that can assist the police with their apprehension, is requested to contact the Investigating Officer Warrant Officer Daniel Mohlala on 079 875 7771, the crime stop number 08600 10111, the nearest police or make use of MySAPSApp.

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has condemned the teenager's murder and the mob justice incident. Hadebe has furthered ordered an immediate manhunt for the suspects involved in the incidents.

lenburg Hospital in Moroke.

MEC for Health Department in Limpopo, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, praised the team that continue to sacrifice their weekends, their families time for a course which is service to humanity.

"We remain indebted to all our specialists and all supporting healthcare workers who share our vision to make sure our people live a long, healthy and quality life," she said.

Ramathuba said the reflection of good management skills in the identified hospitals is playing a major role to help the department address surgical backlogs in rural hospitals.

"The CEO and the staff are doing well so far to help in the programme with the minimal resources we have in the department," she said.

RAL KICK START THE MASSIVE ROADS MAINTENANCE IN ELIAS MOTSOLEDI

By Eric Matome Kgomo
GROBLERSDAL

Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL) said the establishing of sites in the ten earmarked local municipalities in the province set to receive road maintenance assistance from the agency is continuing in Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality.

This is after RAL activated a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA), last month signed with the municipalities as part of the District Development Model (DDM). Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality

ipality is part of the ten municipalities where sites are being established for the upcoming construction work that will include other municipalities such as Collins Chabane, Fetakgomo-Tubatse, Bela-Bela, Polokwane, Musina, Ba-Phalaborwa, Mookgophong, Ephraim Mogale and Makhado Local Municipalities.

Limpopo Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure (LDPWRI) and the Department of Cooperative Government and

Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA), are also part of the programme to assist the ten municipalities in addressing road maintenance issues where they lack capacity.

Twenty-one contractors were appointed as part of the rehabilitation programme to do routine road maintenance and re-gravelling across the province in the affected municipalities.

RAL Spokesperson, Luyanda Sithole, said the agency is targeting to patch about 160 000 square

metres of potholes and to re-gravel roads at an estimated budget of R260 million.

“The RAL-Municipality initiative comes at a point where the recent rains have left roads in various municipality jurisdictions in a dire state. The partnership will help these municipalities to address the damage caused and will thus enable mobility of residents,” she said.

Commenting on the initiative, MEC for Public Works, Roads and

Infrastructure, Nkakareng Rakgoale, said the initiative will bring relief to road users, as these contractors will extend their pothole patching execution to city centres, townships of local municipalities and identified gravel roads leading to villages to enable smooth access for traffic and pedestrians.

Martin Ramaboea, RAL General Manager for Operations, indicated that the communities are in need of improved roads for ease of mobility and access, “hence they need this programme to be fast-tracked”.

“Project managers, contractors and municipal officials will jointly identify areas of priority that will benefit from this intervention. RAL will be strict and will not allow poor workmanship to spoil the potential benefits of the initiative,” he said.

Ramaboea said as part of enforcing compliance, contractors will be given a one-year defects liability period where a portion of their money will be retained, in case of any defects.



ELIAS MOTSOLEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Cllr David Tladi

Honorable Mayor

MAYOR'S EASTER MESSAGE

On behalf of Council, we wish everyone a blessed and safe Easter Weekend. May this time of renewal revitalize your spirit and strengthen your faith.

For those who will be on the roads travelling, please obey the rules of the roads, be alert at all the times, as roads safety is everyone's responsibility, drive safe- together we can reduce the road fatalities.

May this Easter strengthen your inner being and fill you with unprecedented joy, peace and love ,enjoy a good time with your family, relatives and friends.

We wish you all a spiritually fulfilling Easter weekend.

Thank You
Cllr David Tladi
Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality



RAL road maintenance assistance projects have already started in Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality.



Local musician aiming for greater heights

BURGERSFORT

Young up and coming musician, Willam “Seropana” Mphethi, has released his latest single titled, “Letswai”, which is already getting airplay in community and national radio stations.

The 26-year-old Burgersfort born House and Amapiano artist has already buoyed the spirits of local and international music fanatics, with his production he has been experimenting since the tender age.

The single is already available in various music download platforms such as You Tube, Fakaza, Spotify and others.

Seropana started his music career in 2015 as a local DJ who was getting a platform in local events before being embraced by recording companies.

“My love for music developed when I used to play for free at cultural ceremonies and other events in the villages. I never looked back until I released my first

single in December 2022 titled, “Lerato Lea Gapelesta”, which is still popular and loved by many young people,” he said.

Last month, Seropana released “Letswai”, a hit song that secured him interviews with many radio stations in Limpopo and Mpumalanga.

The song is getting airplay in various radio stations such as Thobela FM, Tubatse Community Radio Station, Radio Turf, Moutse Community Radio Station and Sekhukhune FM.

“I believe music can be a great platform for young and older people to express their daily challenges and also educate the generation that comes after them. The message in the song serves as inspiration to young and adult people who come across any difficulties in life. My ultimate goal is to comfort people by conveying the message through my music,” hinted Seropana.

Currently, Seropana is working on his 21 track album that will be released before July, a mix of

House and Amapiano songs.

“My role model is Master KG, I am inspired by him and I can say he was mentoring me throughout my music journey and contributed in helping me to master my beats,” he said.

Due to limited resources and lack of bookings in Burgersfort, Seropana moved to Siyabuswa in Mpumalanga to look for greener pastures and collaborate with other artists.

“Moving to Mpumalanga has helped me to grow in music. The standard of music is competitive and my career is flourishing this side, there is booking after booking. However, I am promoting Burgersfort wherever I go. It is my home, I was born and bred there,” exclaimed Seropana.

They young artist is planning to visit Botswana radio stations in the near future to promote his music in foreign countries.

He said his goal is to collaborate with heavyweight professional artists like DJ Maphorisa and Kabza Da Small.



Willam “Seropana” Mphethi is aiming to take his music career to greater heights through collaborations with heavyweight artists.

DOOII DOES IT FOR THE COMMUNITIES



dooiy is a self-empowerment platform that seeks to help people in underserved communities to do it for themselves with simple solutions is doing wonders in Western Cape. Picture Credit dooiy

By Thulane Madalane

CAPE TOWN

A German based Non-profit organization called dooiy has created a self-help online platform called dooiy, dooiy is a website based Do It Yourself (DIY) platform, which is a brainchild of Co-Founder Marlene Lerch. Marlene and her team invested time and resources in researching the best modalities for their platform before it was launched. The platform has lower data consumption and this would bring relief to underserved communities from developing countries and can't afford buying domestic utensils like industrial fire extinguishers, washing machines and the ever rising costs of food.

The platform has been existing for 18 months before it was officially launched on the 04 February 2023 in Cape Town South Africa, “We officially launched dooiy at i-Afrikayam by hosting a workshop, showcased a shack with all DIY solutions and we had a party which was attended by 150 people, who were given thorough training on our user-friendly platform”, said Marlene. The platform provides solutions on how to make a foam fire extinguisher, rat traps and a bucket washing machine that requires buckets and a plunger.

“Furthermore we organized another workshop for a group of 500 people and I am happy to announce that our platform has about 1000 users in South Africa alone, our vision is to scale this platform worldwide which is achievable since we are building a strong online presence.” added Marlene.

The organization's has made strategic partnerships in the Western Cape with Non-governmental organizations such as Viva Foundation which promotes food security and an advocacy group against Gender Based Violence, Singakwenza a KwaZulu-Natal based organization which manufactures skipping ropes, Abalimi Besekhaya which promotes small scale urban farming and SCORE, a sporting NGO which operates in

South Africa and Namibia, with two sports centers in Western Cape. dooiy plans to use one of the SCORE sports facilities for demonstrating some of its programs for the benefit of communities in nearby settlements such as Nomzamo, Nyanga, Langa, Khayelitsha, Phillipe and others.

The organization has a solid sustainable plan for the platform through working with solutions oriented partners that will use the platform to bring more solutions to the users. “We are big on partnerships and knowledge sharing to grow the platform to other places, our partners will form the core of our sustainability plan. For example, in KwaZulu-Natal we have partnered with an organization called Singakwenza which will teach our users how to make skipping ropes and Viva Foundation which runs food security initiatives. We also work with universities for knowledge sharing” concluded Marlene.

The organization has made a great impact to communities around Cape Town and majority of its beneficiaries are women, who have to put that brave face daily in making sure that their families are taken care of with limited resources. One of the women who couldn't hide her excitement its Sally from Nomzamo who has been empowered with a skill of making a washing machine using buckets and a plunger, “We started making bucket washing machines in ourselves and really makes washing so much easier.” She said. To learn more about dooiy you can visit www.dooiy.org and all the other hacks they have. With this initiative, people in underserved communities will have access to easy solutions that they can apply themselves.

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Michael Komape Online Tool to fast track schools' sanitation infrastructure

By Eric Matome Kgomo
SEKHUKHUNE

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Limpopo said it welcomes the launch of the Michael Komape Sanitation Progress Monitor online tool in the province, issued by Section 27 and the Centre for Child Law.

The online monitor programme was launched in March 2023 after Section 27 took the Limpopo Department of Education to Limpopo High Court to fight for the eradication of pit toilets, following the drowning of a five-year-old Michael Komape who fell in a pit latrine at one of the schools in the province in 2014.

During the court proceedings, the department anticipated that removing unsafe sanitation infrastructure could be completed in 2030.

However, Section 27 raised a concern against the lengthy period demanding that the court declare the department's initial plans as unconstitutional and unreasonable.

The court urged the department to take urgent and effective steps and provide a list of all schools with pit toilets and status and needs, the budget for the delivery of infrastructure at these schools,

revised timelines for implementation, and suitable interim solutions, among other requirements.

The online tool is set to track progress by the Limpopo Department of Education (LDoE), in eliminating unsafe and inappropriate sanitation in the province's public schools.

It is estimated that over 1500 schools in the province are still relying on pit latrines, with about 200 of them in Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) alone.

Jacques Smalle, Da Spokesperson for Education in Limpopo, said the tool will hold the department and provincial government accountable.

"For years the department has promised to deal with the issue of inadequate sanitation and has failed dismally. In her budget speech in July 2019 the then Education MEC, Polly Boshelo, committed that in this financial year, the department will eradicate pit latrines in all the 507 schools and replace them with proper sanitation facilities. Which did not happen," said Smalle.

He said despite the tragic and avoidable deaths of young children like Michael Komape and numerous court judgements against the

LDoE, government continues to show an uncaring attitude.

According to Smalle, the latest assessment showed an infrastructure backlog in excess of R11 Billion and toilets accounted for about R2 billion of the budget.

"However, this indicates that very little has been done to ensure proper sanitation facilities in schools and pit toilets. Premier Mathabatha indicated in his 2023 State of the Province Address that only 150 schools with inappropriate sanitation facilities will be provided with additional sanitation facilities over the next Medium-Term Expenditure Framework period. There is clearly a lack of urgency or the political will to speed up provision of appropriate sanitation facilities," explained Smalle.

He indicated that the current state of school infrastructure in rural schools specifically, leaves much to be desired.

"This systemic violation marginalises mostly rural learners, whose futures are already severely compromised by their socio-economic status. The DA recently announced it will start litigation proceedings to find the quickest and most effective means to instruct governments across the country to erect proper sanitation facilities as a fundamental human right," he said.

Smalle said a much more aggressive approach must be taken if the province is serious about eradicating pit toilets, addressing the province's sanitation deficiencies and ensuring that all schools in the province meet the norms and standards for school infrastructure.

LDoE Spokesperson, Mike Maringa, said the roll-out of schools' water and sanitation infrastructure is in full swing in the province.

"The projects are part of the department's environmentally sustainable sanitation, an intervention aimed at getting rid of pit latrines, which were reliability to schools in the province in the past decade. The structures were posing serious the lives of some learners at risk," he said.

Maringa said the province has about 290 water and sanitation projects currently on the ground and Over 90% of the projects are set to be completed by the end of the current financial year.

"The projects are coming handy and will be a relief to the needy as 300 currently running projects were unleashed in ten districts in the province," he said.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO MARULA FESTIVAL 17th EDITION



Limpopo is ready to host Marula Festival 2023. Picture Credit: Letaba Herald

By Staff Reporter
PHALABORWA

Plans are well afoot as Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET) in collaboration with other partners like Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality, Limpopo Tourism Agency, Department of Sports Arts and Culture Kruger National Park, Limpopo Economic Development Agency, Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA), etc. plans to host the 17th edition of Limpopo Marula Festival from 12-23 April 2023 in Phalaborwa. The MEC of LEDET, Mr. Rodgers Monama, made pronouncements on major activities of the festival during the media launch held in Polokwane on 16 March 2023.

Most of the festival activities including the open-air music concert will take place at Impala Park stadium and as usual, this will like the previous years, happen over two successive weekends. The line up has just been released and the youth dance movement of the weekend of the 15th April 2023 will feature artists like King Monada, Master KG, Musa Keys, Lady Shiks, Sido & Manana, Ma joy, Ntombi Ya Mutsonga, and many more, while the weekend of the 22nd April 2023 will feature Dr Winnie Mashaba, Dr. Tumi, Makhadzi with Penny Penny, Mahlatshe Vocal, Thapelo Molomo, Malondolo, Henny C, Rapson Rambuwani, and many more. Tickets for the public will be sold at R200 and for Comedy night will cost R100. People are encouraged to avoid late rush by purchasing their tickets on time.

The Government has taken a deliberate decision to empower communities around which Marula trees are found in abundance by establishing Cooperatives that brew Marula beer and also produce other bi-products of Marula, such as achar, jam, cooking oil, soap, hand and body lotion, nuts, etc. To date there are in total over 14 such cooperatives which Government continues to support and help market beyond

the borders of the province.

"Our involvement as Government in the facilitation of registration of these Cooperatives had good economic spin-offs on investment into the industry and the employment of rural community members who assist in harvesting and transportation of the fruit annually depending on the order from the organizers of the Marula festival", said MEC for LEDET, Mr. Rodgers Monama. He further said, "We will not relent until this festival changes the living standard of our people in the province to the better".

The town of Phalaborwa, because of its tourism profile and proximity to other major tourist destinations including the world's renowned Kruger National Park, has been declared a permanent home for hosting the annual Marula festival. The town has a well-developed infrastructure, a wide variety of tourists' accommodation, tourism products and numerous game lodges in close proximity. It is easily packaged with products around Hoedspruit, Tzaneen, Modjadji'skloof, Magoebaskloof and Giyani serving as overflow areas for accommodation. This location and setting make Limpopo Marula Festival a major attraction for locals, domestic and international tourists.

To ensure the same quality brew for the festival, the same approach of brewing the beverage at a central venue will be followed. This ensures the standardization of the festival beverage. The required quantity for 2023 is six thousand (6 000) liters of Mukumbi/Vukanyi/Morula beverage. The supply will be provided by the thirteen (14) registered Mukumbi Cooperatives from various District Municipalities.

The 2023 Marula Festival is gradually creeping back to the original format of being held over a period of two weekends in April 2023, starting from the 15th until the 22nd April 2023. In order to cater for the diverse needs of our target markets, the following venues will be utilized for the duration of the festival.



The LDoE says it has started rolling-out of schools' water and sanitation infrastructure to get rid of pit latrines at various schools in the province.

TIMELESS BOOK REVIEW

NAME OF THE BOOK: GRACEFULLY BROKEN

Gracefully Broken is a self-styled autobiography based on my life, I am 36 years old lady from Phokwane in Sekhukhune in the Province of Limpopo. My name is Precious Moshopiadi Mogajane, I come from a middle class christian family background. I used this tell it all sobbing true life story to educate my readers about some of the gigantic and corrosive blunders I made after passing my matric and the freedom of a University life at University of Western Cape where I studied Bsc(Physiotherapy). I was a bright and brilliant student i obtained cumlaudes, however my academic program was interrupted by me when i allowed a man from Mpumalanga who swept me off feet with expensive gifts and ultimately we moved in together. I fell pregnant and the man in question made an arrangement to send his family for lobola negotiations, while we were waiting for the families to have their first meeting, I got a call from boyfriend's fiancé, i was disappointed to learn that I was sold lies by someone I trusted. Amid the disappointment God blessed me with a baby boy whom I named Tshepang. fortunately my parents agreed to take care of the child while i went back to University to complete my studies. By God's grace i completed my degree and i came back home to do a Community Service at one of the regional hospitals in Ga-Sekhukhune.

In 2018 while working at the hospital and still reeling from the shock of a

heartbreaking deception from my previous relationship, i reluctantly fell in love with one of my colleagues at work and things started happening we moved in together at the hospital residential which is designated for certain hospital personnel. We were inseparable, rightly so the gentleman proposed a date for lobola negotiations, i knew that my parents will object to this hastiness as a precautionary measure I delayed telling my parents that someone is asking my hand in marriage. Finally one month away from a proposed lobola negotiations date i spoke to my parents about the imminent proposal. I lied to my parents about the longevity of our relationship. Finally lobola was paid. as a born again Christian i kept on praying to God for the relationship to be what i desired.

THE BEGINNING OF THE ABUSE

My husband and i moved into his family house, the family house was degenerating. I helped with the renovations of the family house. My trust on him began to disappear into a thin air and infidelity started to creep in, the foul language started dominating our conversations and he used abusive language towards me and one eventful night he ordered me to leave, i phoned my parents to come and fetch me and my kids, as loving parents they came and help me to move back home. I had firm belief in God that one day he will restore my relationship to it's former glory, however the opposite happened we kept on drifting apart until one day i decided to seek wisdom from God and stop relying on my own understanding.

COURT ISSUE

One Friday morning while preparing to take my twins to consult with a doctor as they were not well, I suddenly got a shocking call from the sheriff of our local court

in Nebo, informing me that he has divorce summons for me and wanted to know if I was around home so he can deliver them. I then asked if we could meet at the doctor's surgery, he agreed to that then as soon as I got to the surgery he came, read part of the summons for me and I was immediately shattered by the lies the guy told but had no choice but to receive the summons so the Sherriff can be excused, in short all I can say is I was not ready to go fight this guy in court as I thought it was useless for me to fight over lies, I immediately told God that I wasn't going to fight this but He was going to do that on my behalf. hurting as it was I still strongly believed that God will definitely fight for me. My family was against me not fighting the guy as they were all angry and thought I'd lose this case in court, I had one of them offering to help me pay for an attorney but I declined the offer, at

first I accepted the offer, even had a telephonic consultation with the attorney and she told me what documents she needed from me, as I was busy preparing the documents for her I felt what I was doing was wrong and something in me kept saying "this battle is not yours but the Lord's", the more I thought of contesting was the more I stressed, but when I thought of letting God have His fight that was the calmer I got.

I informed the guy about my decision and all he said was "can you then go to my attorney's office (who is actually my mom's cousin), sign a settlement letter so get over and done with this"

He was in a hurry for me to sign as he planned that he must get 50% of my pension funds while I forfeit his, and his reason was that I took cars and all the furniture from the house, forgetting that I was the main contributor and even helped renovate His home. I intentionally dragged the signing issue as I was still in prayer and seeking wisdom from God who gives Wisdom generously so. After a couple of weeks, I told him I was ready to sign and he informed me I could get his 50% this time (this can only be God's doings, He managed to change his mind, all I did was pray and gave God his battle back)

My court case didn't even take time, usually people drag each other to court for years but mine took only 7 months. I remember while in court they read those summons to him and he agreed to everything that was written there, even the part where he lied saying we broke up in September while that time we were actually doing plumbing at his home, I was only asked to sign and that was it. It still didn't take time for the GEFP to process the payments after I submitted my claim forms, It only took a month after submission and the following month I received his share, He didn't get the 50% he was hoping for but actually way less than 30%, i still have most of my pension funds saved and waiting for me to retire so I can get them.

I honestly wouldn't have done it without God, I ran to my God while broken and hurting and He accepted me with open arms regardless of every mistake I did in life, instead of seeing my faults He saw my needs and welcomed me back home like the prodigal son. I am honestly happy that I went through all that pain and struggle because that brought me closer to God, I have the



Precious Magajane wrote a book called *gracefully Broken* after experiencing heartache in her most recent relationships

best relationship with Him and cannot go a day without Him. All these years I thought I knew God but little did I know that I didn't, that pain made me seek God and I found Him and will never let go of Him.

The best part about my relationship with God is me being able to hear His voice, me being able to feel His presence, God is real and just awesome. I still have people telling me I lied about God being able to talk to me, and I don't blame them because if you don't have that solid relationship with Him you will never hear Him speak.

I am proud of the woman I have become, I went through all that fire for a reason and I came back strong and valuable as gold, with God by my side I know I can conquer everything in this world, I was never built to break and nothing will ever break me, I carry this shame of divorce with pride because I know God allowed it for a reason, He knew how He was going to redeem me and He did.

Some still don't believe that I am healed but truth of the matter is "nothing is too hard for my God". I am a happy soul now, rain came and wind blew but because my house is built on God, I am still standing.

ADVICE TO ALL WOMEN

Put God first in everything that you do, more especially relationships. Let God be the foundation of that relationship. Most of all fight for you to have the best relationship with God, because with Him you will never go wrong. He wants what is best for us and

if we invite Him and ask for Wisdom He will definitely give us that.

Take time to get to know any guy who claims to have any good intentions of being in your life, ask God to reveal their true characters and intentions for you. Go for a man who has a heart for God, always have someone that you trust and can talk to, someone you know will be able to give you good advises.

To the young girls do not be flattered by guys who give you expensive gifts or money, rather focus on building a bright future for yourself. Instead of you wanting to be with a rich man, how about you be that rich woman??

Do not take advices from your parents for granted, no one in this world will ever love you like your parents, rich men and boyfriends are also looking for something and once they get what they want from you, they'll leave you stranded. You have so much potential and once you focus your energy on God and building yourself, you can archive anything you want in this world.

To the older women who have worked so hard to establish anything good in life, be on the lookout because there are hungry and cruel men out there plotting evil against what you have worked so hard for, not everyone that approaches you loves you, some are after your hard earned money and ready to leave you all wasted and broken. But if you make God the centre of everything, He will show you all their true colors before it's too late



**Ephraim Mogale
Local Municipality**



**Honourable Mayor
Cllr Given Marasekeng Moimana**

MAYOR'S *Easter* MESSAGE

Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality council would like to send best wishes to all Christians as they will be converging in various places of worship during this period, Easter weekend is a very important occasion to all Christians as they remember the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

Our wish is that we should use this period to rekindle our morals which will help us to rebuild the communities of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality. To Christians who will be attending various pilgrimages to celebrate the death and resurrection of Lord Jesus Christ we wish a blessed and spiritually uplifting Easter weekend.

Most importantly we would like to caution our motorists and pedestrians to observe all the rules of the roads and be patient with each other. Road safety its our collective responsibility. **#ARRIVEALIVE.**

On behalf of Council, we wish everyone a wonderful, happy and safe Easter Weekend. May this time of renewal fortify our spirit and strengthen our faith.

**Honourable Mayor
Cllr Given Marasekeng Moimana**





SWIMMING SCHOOL DEMESTIFY THE MYTH



Venice Ditshego and Moleshiwe Kotelo the co-owners of Venice Ditshego Swimming School in Moutse outside Dennilton.



By Thulane Madalane

MOUTSE:

Venice Ditshego Swimming School is a swimming school based in Moutse in the area of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality in Limpopo. The school was established by Venice Ditshego after observing that many kids were drowning in swimming pools as a result of lacking basic swimming skills. The school officially opened its doors on the 4th February 2023. So far Venice and her team run the school from their pockets, "at the moment we are not funded by anyone, we do everything from our pockets, the other challenging aspect is that we don't have our own facilities, we are hiring a swimming pool from one of the local lodges at a fee however we are optimistic that with right partnerships and sponsors soon we will be owning our own facilities" said Venice

The School started with three learners, now it has an intake of twenty-one learners and they hope to recruit more and more learners as time goes by. The school was established in the rural areas to get rid of the mindset that swimming is only for white or rich people "many people in our

black communities believe that swimming is meant for rich or white people, hence we started this school in the rural areas to demystify that myth" quipped Venice.

The school caters for people, of all ages, colours and socio-economic backgrounds. The school main interest is to see people becoming water safe, "every child should be water safe, particularly in the rural areas as many learners cross rivers to go to schools, if things were up to me I would have advised that swimming lessons should be mandatory in schools" continued Venice

The children stand a good chance of taking swimming as their sporting code of choice because at Venice Ditshego Swimming School they are exposed to different swimming techniques, "at our school, the children learn stroke correction, freestyle, breaststrokes, backstroke and butterfly strokes. This is because our goal is not to be water safe only but to also one day we must have children from our rural areas partaking in the Olympics. We believe there is so much talent here at home and we will ensure that we take it to the next levels." She concluded

Debut Sunshine Tour win for Van Velzen in Limpopo Championship



Ryan van Velzen claimed his maiden victory on the Sunshine Tour in a dramatic final round of the Limpopo Championship at the Euphoria Golf and Lifestyle Estate on Sunday.

By Michael Vlismas

MOOKGOPHONG, – Ryan van Velzen claimed his maiden victory on the Sunshine Tour in a dramatic final round of the Limpopo Championship at the Euphoria Golf and Lifestyle Estate on Sunday.

At the end of a difficult week of weather delays which forced the tournament to be reduced to 54 holes, the 21-year-old Van Velzen signed for a final round of 68 to win by a single stroke on 12 under par. Jaco Prinsloo, Luca Filippi and Daniel van Tonder shared second place on 11 under par. Former South African Golf Development Board (SAGDB) member Franklin Manchest achieved an impressive top 10 finish on seven under par.

A thrilling Sunday began with the suspended second round being completed on Sunday morning. Prinsloo posted a 67 – including four consecutive birdies on the back nine – to claim a two-stroke lead on 11 under par, with Neil Schietekat his nearest challenger on nine under par. Van Velzen was in a share of third place on eight under par.

In the third and final round, Prinsloo appeared to be well in control and headed for victory as he birdied the 16th for a one-stroke lead over Van Velzen with only the par-five 18th to come. Van Velzen had already made it into the clubhouse on 12 under.

But Prinsloo double bogeyed the 18th after hitting his approach deep into the left rough, with Van Velzen watching as he celebrated his first victory on the Sunshine Tour.

"It's incredible. It's awesome," said an emotional Van Velzen. "This changes everything for me. I'm now into every single Sunshine Tour and DP World Tour co-sanctioned tournament next season."

Van Velzen's putter was the key for him this week. "I've been working really hard and I holed some good putts. I also stayed really calm during all the weather disruptions. My caddie Luke was such a big help for me. He kept me in a good space and we just had a good time out there. I'd set myself a target for 15 under overall. I didn't get there, but I played unbelievable golf this whole week and had so much fun out there."