

REA GAZETTE

INFORM AND INSPIRE.



Tragedy in Sharpeville: A Mother's Heartbreak After Losing Two Children in Fire

By Rea Gazette Reporter

Sharpeville, Phelandaba – A 24-year-old mother, Lerato Adams, is grappling with the unimaginable loss of her two young children following a devastating fire. Her five-year-old son, Hlonolofatso Adams, and her one-year-nine-month-old daughter, Bophelo Memory Adams, tragically lost their lives on Saturday.

Lerato's relationship with her partner, a Zimbabwean national who is the father of her youngest child and stepfather to Hlonolofatso, had been marked by frequent conflict. According to Lerato, their relationship was fraught with ongoing arguments.

On the night of the fire, Lerato recalls having an argument with her partner. To de-escalate the situation and avoid further conflict in front of her children, she decided to leave them at home, asleep. Previous arguments had occurred in front of the children, with one incident even leading to Hlonolofatso being injured. Lerato went to a nearby friend's place, but within minutes, her partner followed, storming in and making threats against her life. Fearful, Lerato hesitated to return home.

The situation temporarily calmed down when Lerato's landlord's youngest son intervened,

managing to pacify her partner. However, when Lerato stepped outside to speak with him, he suddenly strangled her and pushed her against a wall. She managed to escape and returned to her friend's house. Later, Lerato's friend, the landlord's son, and his girlfriend went out to a tavern to buy beer. When they went outside, they noticed her house engulfed in flames. Horrified, they realized her children were trapped inside while her partner stood outside watching. They immediately shouted Lerato's name to alert her to the fire. Her partner fled the scene before anyone could intervene.

Sharpeville police spokesperson Constable Busisiwe Sango confirmed that a case of inquest has been opened. Lerato added that her partner later contacted her, claiming the fire was an accident and begging to talk. However, she remains confused as to why he was standing there doing nothing and why he ran away. Shattered and heartbroken, Lerato gathered the remains of her children. In desperate need of support, she has since opened a case against him and is seeking help to bury her children, as she and her mother lack the financial means to do so. Community members, including Councillor Christopher

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Two Gauteng Traffic Officers Found Dead After ‘After-Tears

By Rea Gazette Reporter
Cecil Road, Debonairpark, De Deur—A tragic incident unfolded on Saturday night when two Gauteng traffic police officers were found dead on Cecil Road in Debonairpark, De Deur. The officers, identified as Dalindyebo Dineka and Neo Jane Kgaba, were discovered with firearms lying next to their bodies, marking a somber end to what was reportedly an “after-tears” gathering for a fellow Gauteng traffic warden.

ER24 paramedics responded to the scene and confirmed the deaths of the two officers. According to initial reports, the couple, who had attended the memorial event together, engaged in a heated quarrel before stepping outside. Moments later, gunshots rang out, alarming nearby residents. When authorities arrived, they found Dalindyebo with four gunshot wounds and Neo with a single gunshot wound to the head. A total of eight bullet cartridges were recovered from the scene.

Police spokesperson Noxolo Kweza confirmed the ongoing investigation, stating, “I can confirm that De Deur police are investigating murder and suicide dockets after two traffic police officers were found dead. Their bodies were discovered in the street.”

Bophelong Family Devastated as Fire Destroys Their Home

By Rea Gazette Reporter
Bophelong Ext 7, Tuesday, 13 August 2024 – In an exclusive interview with the Rea Gazette, Ella Pieterse, a 42-year-old resident of Bophelong Extension 7, recounted the harrowing experience of losing her home to a devastating fire that broke out on the evening of 13 August. “I wasn’t at home when the fire started,” Pieterse explained. “I was at my stall in Extension 8, where I sell snacks, sweets, and fresh produce. Then I got the news that my house was on fire.” Rushing home, Pieterse was confronted with the sight of flames consuming her house. “I don’t know how the fire started,” she said. “It began in my bedroom. We had extended our house with a shack, which served as our bedroom and dining room.”

Pieterse lives with her elderly father, her 14-year-old child, and her boyfriend’s 8-year-old child. The fire destroyed all their belongings in the bedroom and dining room, including vital items such as her identification documents, school uniforms, books, clothing, and furniture.

“We lost everything,” Pieterse shared, her voice filled with emotion. “It just feels like a dream, like it’s not really happening.” An eyewitness described the incident: “I was drinking my beer when I saw smoke coming from my neighbor’s yard. At first, I thought they were burning something, but then I realized it was smoke coming from the house.”

“The cause of the fire remains unknown. Meanwhile, the community of Bophelong has shown remarkable support, coming together to help Pieterse and her family as they navigate this tragic loss.”



Boipatong Man Stabbed to Death Over Card Game, Suspect on the Run

By Rea Gazette Reporter
Boipatong, 20 August 2024 - Tragedy struck in Boipatong Tuesday afternoon when a 34-year-old man was fatally stabbed during a heated argument over a card game. The incident occurred at approximately 17:30, and it is believed that the suspect, identified as Samuel, is a Mozambican national.

According to reports, the suspect stabbed the victim in the upper left side of his body, causing him to collapse. The victim was swiftly transported to Johan Hynes Hospital for medical attention, but he was tragically pronounced dead on arrival.

Boipatong police spokesperson, Sergeant Thembeke Maxambela, has urged the community to assist in locating the suspect, who is now on the run. The Boipatong detectives are actively searching for Samuel, and anyone with information on his whereabouts is encouraged to contact the nearest police station or the Boipatong SAPS at Tel. 016 930 2338. Detective Sergeant Motaung is leading the investigation.

The police have confirmed that a case of murder is being investigated.



31-05 2024
AUG OCT

EVENTS

AUG 31 SEPT 01	BASADI THEATRE FESTIVAL ► Eldorado Arts Centre ► 14:00 pm Pula 078 492 0248	06 SEPT 07	SCHOOL ARTS FESTIVAL ► Eldorado Arts Centre ► 9:00 am Nzimeni 071 989 4143 / 073 0247 5013
07 SEPT	VAAL PRIDE BY THE RIVER ► Emfuleni Park ► 11:00 am ► Babazile Nhlapo 081 404 2659	08 SEPT	KGALALA PALACE ALL WHITE SOUL SESSION ► Kgalala Palace ► 10:00 am ► Mpho 073 056 6044
15 SEPT	RAND WATER VAAL RIVER CITY MARATHON ► Isak Steyl ► 06:00 am ► Oupa Masiloane 076 217 8520	20 SEPT	ELM MAYORS CUP ► North West University ► 09:00 am ► Pat Mokoena 068 125 4791
21 SEPT	CLAP AND TAP SCHOOL FESTIVAL ► Eldorado Arts Centre ► 11:30 am ► Butana 081 392 2222	22 SEPT	VAAL RIVER CITY CYCLING CHALLENGE ► Caravan Park ► 06:00 am ► Thabo Maduna 072 234 3274
28 SEPT	HERITAGE AWARENESS CARNIVAL ► Post Office Park, Zone 11, Sebokeng ► 08:30 am ► Zandile 078 131 7862	28 SEPT	TIGERS MCC CHARITY RUN ► Caravan Park ► 10:00 am ► Master P 084 419 1000 / Mzi 082 931 5926
29 SEPT	CELEBRATING MMINO WA CLAP & TAP ► Kgalala Palace ► 11:30 am ► Mosdee Motlaping 073 973 1621	05 OCT	FAMILY PICNIC ► Vaal Technorama ► 10:00 am to 18:00 pm ► Bonny Tsotetsi 082 672 9086
05 OCT	GARMENT OF PRAISE GOSPEL ► Civic Theatre, Vereeniging ► 18 pm to 21 pm ► Kamogelo 083 347 3938		

MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD FOR THREE YOUNG LIVES LOST

By Rea Gazette Reporter
The Evaton West community is reeling from the sudden and heartbreaking loss of three young lives, which has cast a deep shadow of grief over Evaton Primary School. The memorial service for the three learners—Tshepiso Tsotetsi (Grade 3), Moeketsi Mokhatla (Grade 4), and Rethabile Mokhatla (Grade 5)—who tragically died on Monday, August 12, was held this afternoon at the school. The cause of their untimely deaths remains unknown, intensifying the community's sorrow and anxiety.

At Evaton Primary School, the somber silence was punctuated only by the quiet sobs of grieving teachers and students, who clung to one another in search of comfort amid the overwhelming sorrow. During the deeply emotional memorial service, four educators recounted the harrowing events of that fateful Monday. "It felt like my heart stopped," one teacher recalled, her voice trembling with emotion. "We did everything we could, but it wasn't enough."

The educators expressed their profound grief, with one noting that the pain felt as deep as that of a mother mourning her child. "As a school, we faced an incredibly painful experience," said one educator. "We felt helpless, not knowing what else we could do." Various speakers took to the podium, with learners from different grades delivering heartfelt tributes to their departed friends. However, some students were too overcome with emotion to speak, their voices choked by the immense grief they were experiencing.

Sedibeng Honors Top Public Servants in Milestone Event

By Rea Gazette Reporter
Sedibeng District Commissioner, Major General Nkhensani Lemba, congratulated public servants who were recently recognized and promoted to higher positions. The Commissioner emphasized that it is uncommon for such events to take place, and as a district, they took it upon themselves to celebrate this significant milestone.

Rea Gazette spoke with School Governing Board representative Patience Kolweni, who vividly recounted the tragic events of that morning. She was urgently contacted by the school's principal shortly after 8:00 AM, with the alarming news that three learners had fallen gravely ill. Upon her arrival at the school, Kolweni witnessed an ambulance leaving the premises. The principal had asked the third child what they had eaten, and the child mentioned having porridge and milk at home, followed by biscuits given by their stepfather on the way to school.

Kolweni described the atmosphere as heart-wrenching when the devastating news of the children's deaths was shared. "The grief was palpable," she said. "Learners, parents, and teachers alike were overcome with sorrow, and we had no choice but to dismiss everyone early that day."

In a community where hardship is a daily reality, the sudden loss of three young lives has struck a particularly devastating blow, leaving residents grappling with profound grief and unanswered questions. The mother of the deceased children is reportedly struggling to cope with the loss, a tragedy that Kolweni emphasized is particularly hard to bear given the suddenness of the incident. "She's received some counseling, but it's clear she needs more support," Kolweni added.

Adding to the family's distress, on Wednesday, August 14, a woman posing as an official from the Johannesburg Department of Education visited the school,

To mark this rare achievement, the district held a special celebration. Among those honored was Barrage Station Commander, Colonel Sigo, who has been promoted to a new position in Secunda, Mpumalanga. Additionally, Brigadier Ndandwe from Heidelberg has been promoted to Vanderbijlpark SAPS.

During the event, Major General Lemba offered words of encouragement to those who may be feeling discouraged. She stated,



Family of three learners—Tshepiso Tsotetsi (Grade 3), Moeketsi Mokhatla (Grade 4), and Rethabile Mokhatla (Grade 5)—who tragically died on Monday

claiming she wanted to assist the family with funeral arrangements and groceries. Ms. Moshoadiba, a teacher, accompanied the woman to the family's home. However, after borrowing Ms. Moshoadiba's phone and another mourner's phone, the woman disappeared with both devices. The phones were later tracked to Kempton Park, leading Kolweni to suspect that a getaway car was involved. This brazen act of exploitation has only deepened the family's anguish. Ward 24 Councillor Rethabile Hlakane expressed his heartfelt condolences and shared how the community has rallied to support the bereaved family,

who are indigent and unemployed. Hlakane emphasized the efforts made to ensure the children receive a dignified funeral, avoiding the municipality's indigent burial process. He also called on law enforcement to bring the perpetrator responsible for the children's deaths to justice. As the community of Evaton comes together to bid farewell to Tshepiso, Moeketsi, and Rethabile, their untimely deaths serve as a stark reminder of the fragility of life and the urgent need for justice and healing. The three children will be laid to rest on Sunday, August 18, with a service to be held from 9 AM to 11 AM at Evaton Primary School.

For those who are feeling negative, remember that when the time is right, the Lord will make it right. It's important to know that if you were number 100 today, with 10 people promoted ahead of you, you are now number 90. Your time is coming. It may not happen now, but there is a chance for everyone. Hard work always pays off."

The district is thrilled to welcome Brigadier Ndandwe as the new Vanderbijlpark Station Commander



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Sebokeng SAPS and Partners Inspire Young Minds on Career Day

By Rea Gazette Reporter
Sebokeng, August 8, 2024 – In celebration of Women’s Month, the South African Police Service (SAPS) in collaboration with Cynthia City Creche and various stakeholders hosted an inspiring Career Day program. The event, which took place on August 8, 2024, aimed to expose children to a variety of career opportunities within the SAPS, fostering early interest and understanding of the roles law enforcement plays in society. The initiative saw the involvement of several key stakeholders, including the 14 Sedibeng District Station Social Crime Prevention Unit, the Community Policing Forum (CPF), GTW, the Department of Health, and Cynthia City Creche, a non-profit organization. Each of these partners played a crucial role in making the day both educational and enjoyable for the young attendees. Children were encouraged to dress according to the career paths they aspire to follow, with a notable number showing a keen interest in policing. Out of the many professions represented, 11 children stood out for their enthusiasm towards becoming police officers.

These young aspirants recited a heartfelt poem dedicated to the duties of police officers, emphasizing the importance of safety and community service. Their performance concluded with a touching commitment to serve with honor and dignity when they eventually don the uniform. Sergeant Maria Molefi, along with other officers from various stations, addressed the children briefly before handing out books to all who participated. This gesture was met with excitement, as the children eagerly accepted the educational materials.

Sebokeng Police Spokesperson, Sergeant Nthabiseng Mokhachane, expressed her satisfaction with the event, noting its success in sparking interest among the children. She mentioned that Colonel Mofokeng, who was also present, was particularly impressed by the way the event provided the children with an opportunity to explore and experience careers within the SAPS.

This Career Day not only highlighted the dedication of the SAPS to community engagement but also underscored the importance of nurturing future leaders from a young age, particularly during Women’s Month.



WOMEN'S MONTH INITIATIVE: A RIDE FOR HEALTH AND HOPE

By Rea Gazette Reporter
Celebration of Women's Month, the Mazwaizwai Cycling Team, led by Chuchi Radebe, launched an initiative with a dual purpose: encouraging women to take up cycling as a healthy lifestyle choice and raising donations for underprivileged students. Cycling is seen by Mazwaizwai as not just a sport but a means to maintain both physical and mental well-being. The initiative aimed to engage women in the sport while also making a meaningful contribution to the community. Specifically, the team set out to collect 100 dignitary packs containing essential items such as a face cloth, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, lotion, and sanitary pads. These packs were donated to learners at Dr.

aligning with their goal of targeting schools in the area. Looking forward, Mazwaizwai plans to extend their efforts to more schools, with a focus on supporting those in need. Reflecting on the event's success, Radebe expressed satisfaction with how smoothly everything went, particularly given the presence of new riders. The positive feedback from participants has sparked optimism for the future of cycling in their communities. The success of the event was largely due to the generosity of donors, including individuals, businesses, and community leaders. The team expressed deep gratitude to everyone who contributed, highlighting the importance of collaboration in making a lasting impact. Special thanks were extended to local sponsors who ensured the comfort of all participants by providing refreshments. These included Thami Manzi of Ola Shisanyama, Lerato Mokoena of Monitor Meats, Nthapeleng Mokale of Rest 'O Beds, Rankiseng Maloka of Rankiz Auto Glass, Papi Mokhema of Kasie Corner, and Thabo Maduna of Super Clean Dry Cleaners and Wax It. Additionally, the team recognized Metro Cycles, under the leadership of Christo Kokkinos, for securing 14 bicycles from Big Rock Cycling School in Parys and ensuring that all bikes were in top condition for the ride. With this successful event, Mazwaizwai Cycling Team has laid a strong foundation for future initiatives aimed at promoting health, community spirit, and social responsibility.

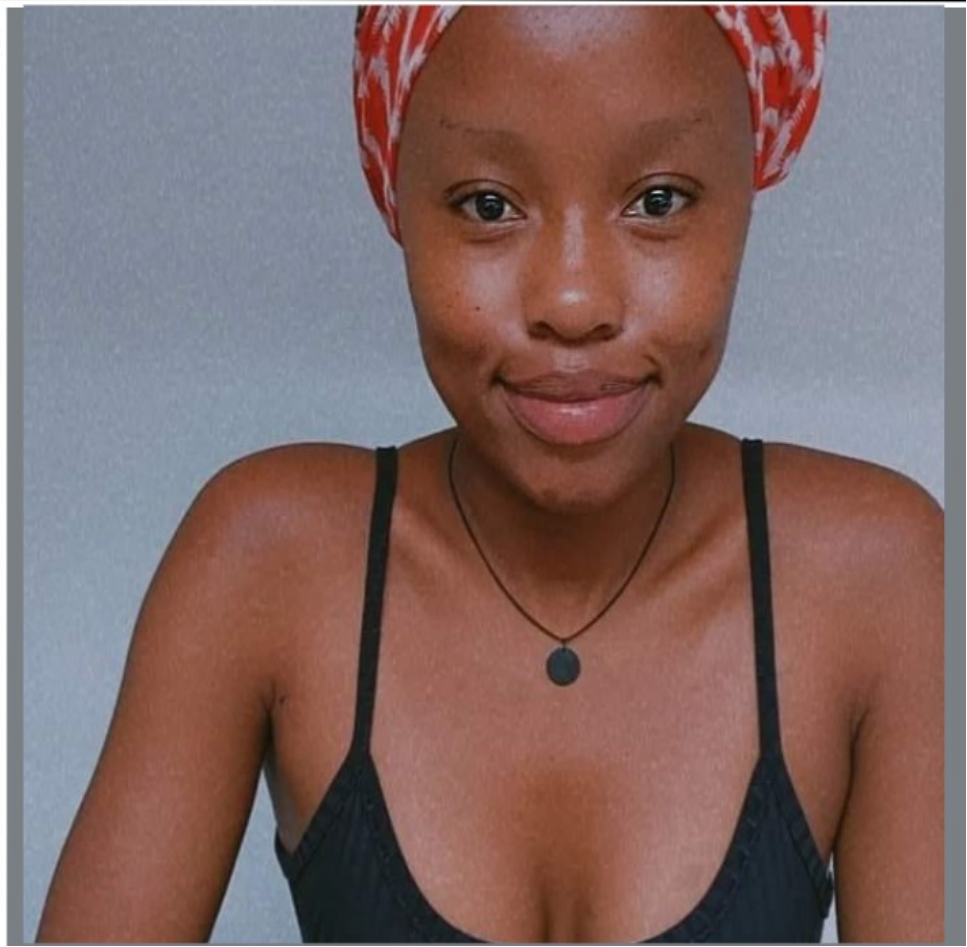
Molefi Oliphant Math, Science, and ICT School of Specialisation in Bophelong Extension 9, with 50 packs allocated to girls and the other 50 to boys. The event attracted over 70 cyclists from the Vaal and surrounding areas, exceeding expectations and ensuring the donation quota would be met. The high turnout also amplified the initiative's visibility across the townships covered during the 35 km social ride. Many participants brought along family members, enriching the social aspect of the ride. When it came to selecting the school for the donations, no specific criteria were used other than the location. The team chose Dr. Molefi Oliphant School as it is situated within Bophelong,

NWU Vaal Campus Grieves the Loss of Fourth-Year Student

By Rea Gazette Reporter
The North-West University (NWU) Vaal Campus is mourning the loss of 22-year-old Mamohlotsi Rebecca Nchabeleng, a fourth-year BEd student, who was tragically found dead in her room at a private residence on Monday, 19 August 2024. This heartbreaking incident follows just a day after the tragic car accident that claimed the lives of six NWU Vaal Campus students. Nchabeleng's body was discovered after the death of her boyfriend, who is not an NWU student, was found at his home in Sharpeville with a suicide note that led police to her location. Vanderbijlpark Police Spokesperson Sergeant Sabelo Sigcu confirmed that a murder case has been opened, and investigations are ongoing concerning the matter.

The police were alerted by the boyfriend's family after finding him hanging at his home. His suicide note revealed that he had killed his girlfriend, and that was the reason he also killed himself. The letter directed the police to Nchabeleng's residence. Upon arrival, they found Nchabeleng lying unresponsive in bed. Paramedics were called to the scene and declared her dead.

In a statement, Professor Sibusiso Chalufu, Executive Director: Student Life and DVC: Vanderbijlpark Campus Operations (acting), confirmed the tragic event and expressed deep sorrow on behalf of the university. The university is providing counselling services to Nchabeleng's family and to students and staff affected by this tragic event. Those in need of support are encouraged to visit the Student Counselling and Development Centre at Building 14, Split-Level 3, Office 331.



LIFE AT BOIKETLONG FLATS: A COMMUNITY ON THE EDGE



By Rea Gazette Reporter
On the 3rd of August, tragedy struck Boiketlong Flats in Sasolburg when a fire ravaged one of the buildings, claiming the lives of two residents. For the people living in these flats, this incident is just the latest chapter in a long history of hardship and uncertainty. The story of Boiketlong Flats is one of neglect, legal battles, and a community living in constant fear of what tomorrow might bring. Boiketlong Flats, located in the Zamdela area of Sasolburg, were initially constructed as residential buildings. However, over the years, the property has fallen into severe disrepair. Structural issues are prevalent, and the lack of basic services such as water and electricity has made life difficult for the residents. Despite these challenges, many have remained, some for over a decade, in what has become a battle for survival. The ownership of Boiketlong Flats has been a source of controversy for years.

The property is owned by Prominent Corporate Services, represented by Mr. I. Spies, who have been engaged in a long legal battle to evict the residents since 2010. In 2017, a High Court granted an eviction order and Warrant of Ejectment. Despite this, many of the original occupants, along with new illegal settlers, have continued to reside on the property, often citing the lack of alternative housing as a reason for staying. The fire that broke out on the 3rd of August has only heightened the sense of crisis surrounding Boiketlong Flats. The exact cause of the fire remains under investigation, the blaze left several residents homeless and compounded the fears of those who remain. In the aftermath, the Metsimaholo Municipality provided some relief in the form of temporary accommodation, mattresses, and blankets for those displaced. However, this response has been criticized by residents and observers alike as too little, too late.

The residents, many of whom have lived in fear of eviction for years, now face the added trauma of having lost their homes and, for some, their loved ones. In an interview with Rea Gazette, representatives of Prominent Corporate Services expressed their condolences to the families of those who lost their lives. However, they also emphasized that the property has long been declared unsafe and unfit for habitation. According to Prominent’s representatives, the company has made numerous efforts to secure the property, including locking gates, repairing walls damaged by illegal occupants, and hiring security personnel. Despite these efforts, the property has been repeatedly breached, and the illegal occupation has continued. Prominent’s representatives have been clear in their stance that they cannot be held responsible for the loss of life and damages resulting from the illegal occupation. They point out that both the SAPS and Metsimaholo Municipality were well aware of the eviction order and the hazardous conditions of the property but failed to act decisively. The company also highlighted the absurdity of the emergency services providing kettles and other electrical appliances to residents despite the dangerous, illegal electrical connections running through the property. The company is now considering further legal action, including criminal charges against those who have continued to occupy the property illegally. Prominent’s representatives stress that they had warned Metsimaholo Municipality about the dangers posed by the illegal occupation but were met with inaction.

As the situation stands, the future of Boiketlong Flats remains uncertain, with redevelopment plans and possible demolition looming on the horizon. For the residents of Boiketlong Flats, the future is bleak. Rumors have circulated that the property may be redeveloped into a shopping complex, a move that would displace the remaining residents. Many have expressed a willingness to relocate if alternative housing is provided, but they are deeply frustrated by the lack of communication and support from the local government. They recall how services like water delivery were provided only in the lead-up to elections, only to disappear afterward.

Metsimaholo Municipality, in the wake of the fire, has pledged to assist those affected and to work towards repairing and rebuilding the flats. However, the slow pace of response and the lack of clear plans for the future leave residents in a state of uncertainty and fear.

The situation at Boiketlong Flats is emblematic of broader issues in South Africa, where the demand for safe, affordable housing often outstrips supply, and legal processes can drag on for years without resolution. The tragedy of August 3rd is a stark reminder of the human cost of these systemic failures. As residents await answers and action from the authorities, they continue to live in a place that feels more like a ticking time bomb than a home. By the time of publishing, the Rea Gazette was still awaiting a response from Metsimaholo Municipality regarding their long-term plans for the residents of Boiketlong Flats.



Public Service Announcement
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Date: Tuesday, 23 July 2024

UNAUTHORISED CUTTING OF TREES PROHIBITED

Following several incidents of unauthorised cutting and pruning of trees located on municipal land by members of the public, the Emfuleni Local Municipality (ELM) Parks and Cemeteries Department hereby notifies all residents that it is prohibited to indiscriminately cut trees on municipal land.

While the municipality endeavours to manage trees in a professional manner, it is important to note that cutting of trees located on municipal land is illegal and anyone caught doing it will be prosecuted.

ELM urges the community to report any suspicion of unauthorized cutting of trees to the Parks and Cemeteries Department. For all tree related queries please contact the municipality as follows:

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065 897 2431
2. Vereeniging Areas
079 495 7553
3. Vanderbijlpark Areas
073 238 2955

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El Paso Spur: 44 Years as a Pillar of Vanderbijlpark's CBD.

By Rea Gazette Reporter
Nestled in the heart of Vanderbijlpark's Central Business District, El Paso Spur is more than just a restaurant—it's a landmark that has stood the test of time. Established on September 11, 1980, this beloved steakhouse is turning 44 this year, marking over four decades of serving delicious meals and creating cherished memories for families and friends in the Vaal Triangle. El Paso Spur is a proud member of the Spur Steak Ranches family, a brand that has been synonymous with quality and warmth since its inception in 1967. Over the years, El Paso Spur has become a favorite dining spot in Vanderbijlpark, known for its welcoming atmosphere and its menu filled with mouthwatering steaks, burgers, and ribs. This year, as it celebrates its 44th anniversary, El Paso Spur remains a testament to the enduring appeal of good food and great service.

Throughout its history, the restaurant has not only provided delicious meals but also played a significant role in the community, offering employment opportunities to many locals. Over the years,

El Paso Spur has been a stepping stone for countless individuals, helping them build careers in the hospitality industry. El Paso Spur's impact extends beyond just food. The restaurant has been deeply involved in community initiatives, supporting local schools, sports teams, and charitable events. This dedication to the community has helped El Paso Spur remain a vital part of the Vanderbijlpark landscape, even as the CBD around it has transformed. During a recent visit, Rea Gazette had the pleasure of experiencing the warm hospitality and delicious cuisine that El Paso Spur is known for. The food was not only satisfying but also served with the friendliness and efficiency that have become trademarks of the restaurant. From the perfectly grilled steaks to the flavorful sides, every dish was a reminder of why El Paso Spur has remained a favorite for so many years. As El Paso Spur celebrates 44 years in Vanderbijlpark, it continues to be a beacon of quality and community spirit. Despite the changes in the CBD, El Paso Spur remains a cherished gathering place for locals and visitors alike. With its rich history, commitment to the community, and continued focus on delivering great food and service, El Paso Spur is set to remain a beloved institution in Vanderbijlpark for many years to come.



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Supporting Local Communities Through Fashion and Charity



By Rea Gazette Reporter
Vanderbijlpark, a collaboration between two prominent organizations, The Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce and the Vanderbijlpark Rotary Club, has been making a significant impact on the community. These two entities, known for their dedication to social responsibility and community development, have expanded their reach through various charitable initiatives. One such initiative is the In and Out Charity Shop, a unique venture that not only offers stylish and affordable clothing but also channels its proceeds to support ongoing charity work in the area.

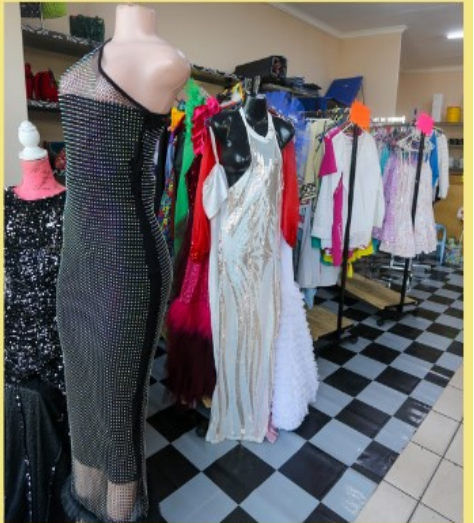
The In and Out Charity Shop, established late last year, is more than just a thrift store. It represents the combined efforts of The Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce and the Vanderbijlpark Rotary Club to create sustainable funding for their charitable activities. Located in the DF Malan Vanderbijlpark building, this shop has quickly become a local favorite for those looking to purchase high-quality, gently used clothing at affordable prices.



The store offers a wide range of fashion items for different occasions, from traditional attire and matric dance dresses to casual and formal wear. Additionally, the shop boasts a collection of toys, making it a go-to spot for families in the community. The items sold are carefully selected to ensure they meet the needs of the community while maintaining a standard of style and quality. The DF Malan building, where the In and Out Charity Shop is housed, is maintained by Rita from Spur, a local business leader who has been instrumental in supporting this initiative.



The building itself has become a symbol of community spirit, with its doors open to anyone who wants to contribute to or benefit from the charitable efforts spearheaded by these organizations. Every purchase made at the In and Out Charity Shop directly supports the charity work done by The Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce and the Vanderbijlpark Rotary Club. Whether you are buying a dress for a special occasion or picking up toys for your children, you are also contributing to a greater cause—helping to uplift and support those in need within the Vanderbijlpark community. Supporting the In and Out Charity Shop means you are not just buying clothes; you are investing in your community. The work done by The Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce and the Vanderbijlpark Rotary Club is vital, and by shopping here, you play a part in making Vanderbijlpark a better place for everyone. Visit the shop at the DF Malan building and be a part of something truly special.



Kasie Trailblazers

Liberty Uphifts Sapphire Secondary School Learners with Essential Hygiene Donations

By Rea Gazette Reporter

Bophelong – Liberty, a Standard Bank Group, made a significant impact at Sapphire Secondary School by donating sanitary towels to female learners and hygiene packs to male learners. Ms. Monatisa, a teacher at Sapphire Secondary School, initiated this donation. Originally from the Free State, Monatisa was inspired by Liberty's outreach efforts in her hometown schools. Two years ago, she reached out to the company, proposing that they consider including Sapphire Secondary in their Corporate Social Investment (CSI) projects. To her surprise, three months ago, Liberty responded positively, informing her that they had reviewed her proposal and decided to support the school by providing essential sanitary products.

Reflecting on the journey, lack of sanitary products, and we aim to change that by ensuring they have the resources to manage their menstrual cycles with dignity." The donation to Sapphire Secondary School marks the launch of this year's initiative, with plans to expand to a school in each province within the coming months. While the budget is limited, Liberty is committed to making a difference in as many schools as possible. The success of the event was evident, with over 1,200 learners receiving hygiene packs, including a year's supply of sanitary towels for more than 600 girls. Moeletsane expressed pride in Liberty's longstanding commitment to education, mentioning their other national programs aimed at supporting matriculants in subjects like mathematics and science. He highlighted the recent launch of the Prime Stars initiative in collaboration with the incoming Minister of Education,

which focuses on providing tutorials for matric learners. The learners at Sapphire Secondary School were deeply appreciative of the support. Keletso Matona, an 18-year-old Grade 11 learner, praised the initiative, stating, "This is a beautiful effort that has given many girls the confidence they lacked. Some of the girls don't have access to these resources at home, so this support is important." Matona also emphasized the importance of the educational lectures on menstrual cycles, which were provided during the event. Tumelo Makubo, a 16-year-old Grade 11 learner, shared his thoughts from the boys' perspective, noting the struggle with peer pressure and the value of receiving guidance and support from external organizations. "This event meant a lot to us. We learned valuable lessons that we may have missed before," he said.



D-TAIL: LEADING THE AFRO-PULSE REVOLUTION FROM VAAL

By Rea Gazette Reporter

In an exclusive interview with Rea Gazette, we had the pleasure of sitting down with D-TAIL, the visionary Afro-house artist and entrepreneur from Vaal, South Africa. Born Mpho Gift Mokoena, D-TAIL is not just another DJ or producer; he is a musical innovator who is breaking new ground in the music industry with his signature sound, Afro-Pulse —a unique fusion of Afro-house and Afro-beats. D-TAIL's journey in music is as inspiring as his sound. He started as a passionate artist with a dream but quickly realized that the industry could be challenging for those looking to retain creative control. Instead of waiting for opportunities, he decided to create them. "If there's no company willing to help me, I create that company and own the company that helps," he shares. This philosophy led him to establish his own record label, a move that has allowed him to stay true to his artistic vision while pushing the boundaries of Afro-house music. His debut single, "Inyembezi," featuring Madesh and EMDeekayy, is a testament to his innovative style. The track showcases his specialty, Afro-house 3step, and has been well-received by audiences across all age groups. "I want my music to resonate with everyone, to speak to their emotions and experiences," says D-TAIL, who draws inspiration from a wide range of genres and his own personal journey.

D-TAIL's influences are as eclectic as his music, with artists like Kendrick Lamar, Da-capo, Pharrell Williams, and Jay-Z shaping his sound. "Their creativity and passion are something I strive to embody in my own work," he explains. Despite being an introverted extrovert, D-TAIL connects deeply with his audience through his music, delivering performances that are both electrifying and unforgettable. But D-TAIL's story doesn't end with "Inyembezi." Fans can look forward to his upcoming EP, Awakening, which will feature five hit songs, including "Inyembezi." The EP promises collaborations with notable artists like Summer, Traumax, Scottish, and other well-known names from Vaal, making it one of the most anticipated releases in the Afro-house scene. As our conversation came to a close, D-TAIL took a moment to express his gratitude to the people who have been instrumental in his journey. "The most important people I'd like to thank are my business partners, Vuyo Lephallo (Master Tee) and Lawrence Mofokeng (Shakes). They've been the core of everything I do, stepping in as my team when things were hard," he said with heartfelt sincerity. D-TAIL's story is one of resilience, creativity, and relentless pursuit of excellence. As he continues to innovate and inspire, there's no doubt that his Afro-Pulse sound will leave an indelible mark on the music industry. Be sure to follow D-TAIL on Facebook for the latest updates on his upcoming releases and events. The Afro-Pulse revolution is here, and D-TAIL is leading the charge.



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