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Friday 23 July 2021



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WEEKLY SA

MIRROR

Insight to connect the dots...

KZN EXODUS TO JOZI?

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LOOMS AFTER LOOTING RAMPAGE

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HOPE: Car manufacturer Toyota is resuming production after lootings in Durban, KwaZulu forced the company to temporarily shut down its operations at the city's plant.

SURGE OF KZN JOBSEEKERS TO STRAINED JOBURG LOOMS



NO MIGRATION: SBDI Executive director Xolani Qubeka says migration would not be a solution

By Ali Mphaki

All roads lead to Gauteng as scores of stranded job seekers in KwaZulu Natal are expected to head for the "city of gold" for already scarce jobs - in the wake of last week's rampant looting and damaging of businesses in their province.

The unrest has dealt a severe blow to investor confidence in the province, with a report from Deloitte (compiled prior the protests) already having warned that 28% of businesses had planned to move some of their operations from the port city of Durban to elsewhere, and 25% of a survey having indicated they wanted out from the province.

Business want Durban and the KZN authority to show clear plans how they will restore stability going forwards. The Deloitte report, which pointed several positive attributes that presented a positive outlook for the province, had however raised concerns about the negative political environment and reports of poor municipal financial management in the province.

Huge conglomerates like Toyota, which employs about 7 200 people in their Durban plant,

HARD TIMES: Better job prospects in Jozi expected to lure hundreds of KZN workers rendered unemployed by protests

say they have been left feeling "very uncertain" about the future of their business in KZN, with the recent unrest negatively impacting on their manufacturing operations as well as key exports.

The company had to shut down their operations last Monday, but work has since resumed.

The desperate situation, analysts warn, may see a huge exodus of desperate people from the province to Jozi - in search of a better employment prospects.

Matthews Ndlovu, the KwaZulu-Natal secretary general of the South African Catering Commercial and Allied Workers, Saccawu, said though no official figure was available estimates put the number of workers affected by the mayhem to be as high as 30 000, which could translate to 150 000 dependents being without breadwinners.

He said they could not overrule the possibility of a huge migration to Gauteng, and that they been in talks with the various retail giants in the province and were hopeful that they would not disinvest in the province.

"We living in hope," he said. One of the businesses badly affected was tyre manufacture Bridgestone, whose warehouse at Cator Ridge was looted and vandalized, resulting in close to 1 500 workers left stranded.

The situation is unlikely to change anytime soon it is going to be twice as difficult for the destroyed businesses to be up and running again to full capacity.

As one of the worst-performing provinces, in terms of unemployment and prior to the events of last week, KwaZulu-Natal had shed more than 33 000 jobs quarter on quarter during the first quarter of 2021, according to the Quarterly Labour Force

Survey, which was released by Statistics South Africa on Tuesday.

The survey also ranked the province as the second worst-performing province for unemployment in the country.

Year on year, there's been a 3.6% increase in unemployment in the province, which has been aggravated by the widespread lootings and destruction of property.

KwaZulu-Natal's MEC for finance Nomusa Dube-Ncube while bemoaning the deadly effects of the coronavirus pandemic had hoped the economic growth in the province this year will "moderate" to 1.5% having contracted by at least 9.1% last year.

The provincial GDP growth rate fell by a 'devastating' 51.6% last year, she said.

Stats SA estimates that of a net immigration of 1, 012 million people between 2016 and 2021, about 47.6% settle in Gauteng.

Gauteng also attracts international immigrants as well as domestic migrants from rural provinces such as Limpopo, and Eastern Cape.

The SABC early this week also reported a number of people from neighbouring eSwatini illegally crossing the border into South Africa, as a result of the riots which took place in that tiny kingdom three weeks ago.

The "pull" factors that attract migrants to Gauteng is mainly its economic strength, the StatsSA report states.

With unemployment rate in South Africa reaching a record high of 32.6 percent in the first quarter of 2021 from 32.5 percent in the final quarter, analysts say the looting of businesses has only exacerbated the country's labour market woes.



OPTIMISTIC: BBC President Sandile Zungu says he would be surprised if migration happened at a grand scale. Photo: BBC

Gauteng, as South Africa's economic hub, on average received about 500 new migrants every week from all over the continent, according to Premier David Makhura.

Small Business Development Institute executive director Xolani Qubeka discouraged people from leaving KZN and advised that a long-term solution was for people to seek self-employment opportunities and approach existing agencies. "These events take place under strenuous pandemic conditions that have untold harm to jobs generally. And Gauteng is under severe strain of unemployment and therefore this can't be the solution."

Black Business Council president Sandile Zungu said he would be surprised if migration happened "on a massive scale".

"In earnest, the rebuilding of the KZN economic infrastructure and other structures damaged during the looting frenzy has commenced. Jobs will be created and the businesses that were disrupted will be back in operation soon. The coastal lifestyle will dissuade people from relocating from Durban to Johannesburg."

By Vusi Xaba

Members of the Witwatersrand African Taxi Association (Wata) in Soweto are scratching their heads trying to figure out how they are going to pay monthly instalments for their vehicles after operations were halted by the closure of Jabulani mall following a recent spate of violence that engulfed KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng.

Jabulani Mall, situated in the heart of Soweto where Wata launches its operations to various parts of the country's biggest township, has been closed since Monday last week after scores of looters vandalised the facility causing damages estimated at millions of rand.

Wata deputy spokesperson Siphamandla Madinane told Weekly SA Mirror yesterday that the closure of the mall had affected them so hard that they did not know how they were going to pay their monthly instalment for their minibuses.

According to Taxi Depot's website, a minibus taxi finance agent, a Toyota Quantum's monthly instalment is R14 000. A Nissan Impendolo NV350, according to Group1 Auto's website, is R6000 a month.

"We have about 400 active members and about 2 500 taxis. One operator is losing about R300 a day on a single taxi. Some taxi owners have one taxi, others have five, some 15".

The number varies per person and the number of taxis they each own. All these taxis have not been making money since the mall was closed. "Those who try come back and operate end up with nothing since there are no people going to the mall", Madinane said.

Jabulani Mall was one of the business properties that were extensively damaged and looted by mobs two weeks ago. Although at first the campaign was believed to be linked to the call for the release of former President Jacob Zuma, it later emerged that this was an orchestrated plan of a failed insurrection.

Trucks were also targeted on the major highways, especially along the N2 and N3 between KZN and Gauteng. The trucks were looted and torched, with most incidents in Mooiriver toll plazas in KZN. Some business properties were also set alight. While taxi operators and communities in other areas forged a united front to protect their malls and ensured that no vandalism occurred, Wata and communities around Jabulani Mall were caught napping.

"We did not think that Jabulani Mall could be attacked as it is very close to the police station. After we heard that some malls had been attacked, we printed posters distancing ourselves from looting. But we have learned a lesson to be vigilant should such an incident happen again. It will never happen under our watch. All we want now is for the

TAXI OPERATORS FACE RUIN AFTER SHOPPING MALL LOOTINGS

NO BUSINESS: Taxi owners can't pay instalments, face bank vehicle repossessions



FLASHBACK: Prior to last week's pro-Zuma protests, Soweto's Jabulani Mall and its adjacent taxi rank (above) were a bustle of activity, filled with hundreds of shoppers daily. Since then, business has dried up for taxi operators as the mall has been closed down temporarily.

mall to reopen so that we can go back to work," Madinane said.

Wata operates routes to and from Jabulani Mall, Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, Dobson-

ville, Protea Glen Mall, Maponya Mall, Mndeni and Johannesburg city centre. "Our commuters are people working at the mall. There also those who receive their monthly pension grants there. If we do

not have people going to the mall it means our operations come to a standstill. We do not even know when the mall is going to re-open. We hope it re-opens soon", Madinane.

TSHOLA LAID TO REST AT HEROES' ACRE



GONE BUT NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN: The picture of singer Tsepo Tshola cuts a sombre backdrop during a memorial service held in his honour at the Johannesburg Theatre Wednesday where fellow artists like Yvonne Chaka Chaka paid homage to the departed artist. Tshola was buried at Thaba Bosiu Heroes' Acre in Lesotho Friday. Photo: Siphon Maluka

LIMPOPO LEADS IN VACCINATIONS

EXEMPLARY: Churches and traditional leaders were brought on board

By Frank Maponya

Limpopo is one of the poorest provinces in South Africa.

But it is regarded as a frontrunner in terms of its Covid-19 vaccinations in the country. Despite the province suffering from a chronic lack of resources, particularly in the public health sector, Limpopo has been vaccinating its citizens at the fastest rate in the country. More than 80 percent of the province's population live in rural areas but the provincial department of health has managed to vaccinate more people than any other province. The province's health MEC Dr Phophi Ramathuba has attributed the success in outpacing other provinces in terms of vaccinations to the fact that they were working together with churches and traditional leaders to make sure that the message was sent across to community members to go and get the jabs. The province is home to two powerful churches, the Zion Christian Church (ZCC) as well as the St Engenas Church. Recently, leaders of both churches, Bishop Barnabas Lekganyane of the ZCC and his St Engenas counterpart Bishop Joseph Lekganyane were seen in the frontline taking the jabs at the Pietersburg Hospital. This was also done in order to encourage their followers to take the issue of vaccinations serious. Ramathuba said traditional leaders also played a pivotal role in encouraging their subjects to go and register to take the jabs.

"We are aware that our people have strong beliefs in their churches and the leaders of those churches, including their traditional leaders, hence we took the initiative to rope in those influential

leaders," Ramathuba said.

"Our people have so much confidence in their leaders, be they spiritual or traditional, more than they have in us as politicians and even health professionals. They don't trust their doctors more than they would trust their traditional leadership," she added.

According to Ramathuba, when they are given a task by the national government, they put a lot of effort into planning "because we know that our material conditions are completely different from other provinces which have their own metros and urban areas while we are predominantly rural."

Ramathuba said she knew that most areas in the province had challenges in terms of network connectivity and that the majority of senior citizens were not familiar with the internet, let alone having smart phones.

"To deal with these issues, our department had to veer away from the national self-registration plan which placed the responsibility on individuals to register on the EVDS to secure a vaccination appointment. Instead, we ordered all hospitals, clinics and community healthcare centres to assist all elderly residents with registering on the EVDS," she explained.

But part of the plan which also worked out the best, Ramathuba said, was to activate more than 9 000 community healthcare workers equipped with smartphones to conduct door-to-door registration campaigns in far-flung villages.

"We allocated the community healthcare workers with Android phones and loaded them with data in order for them to be able to do their job with



EXAMPLE: ZCC head Bishop Barnabas Lekganyane and Limpopo health MEC Dr Phophi Ramathuba share a light moment

ease," she said, adding that they had been using them even prior to Covid-19, doing door-to-door campaigns on TB screenings, including screenings for HIV and Aids.

"These are home-based carers who are supporting patients. They know the environment in which they work. They know the villages and their wards," the MEC said.

But registering on the EVDS is just one component of the vaccine roll-out and Ramathuba said getting Limpopo residents to the sites on the day of the vaccination was an equally important consideration for the province. To combat the vaccine hesitancy, the department turned to the churches and traditional leaders to help allay any fears in communities.

ROBBED TWICE OF LAND, NORTH WEST CLAN FIGHTS FOR RESTITUTION

SOLUTION: Authorities offer another piece of land to clan to resolve the dispute

By Boitumelo Tshehle

The Banogeng clan in the North West have complained that they have been robbed of their forefathers' land and have blamed the local government for it. This after the provincial department of agriculture, land reform and rural development returned the agricultural land to the clan after a claim, but, instead of them occupying the land, another set of farm labourers flocked on to it first.

Now these beneficiaries wanted government to give them back their land as they were living in abject poverty.

One of the beneficiaries, Johannes Machwisa, said he had to find an old dilapidated farm house to use as his home.

He is one of the 101 people who could have been generating income from the Klipfontein farm they reclaimed three years ago.

He said he had hoped that the restoration of the land would make him live a better life.

"Our dignity has not been restored. This farm generates a lot of money under our names but we are not benefitting. We are like strangers in our own farm," he said.

After the farm was bought from the previous farmer, the new farm owner evicted Machwisa and his clan and demolished their houses. Machwisa said he then ran and hid in an old farm house that was left unattended.

That was how he remained behind at the farm while other farm labourers went to a squatter camp and erected shacks.

He plants a small portion of fruits and vegetables so that they can make ends meet.

"Hunger is something that we are used to, but at least I use my hand to plant fruits and vegetables during good seasons," he said.

North West department of Land reform's project coordinator Kgomo Mompoti said they were in a process of getting another piece of land for Machwisa and other beneficiaries.

"The reason why the land was given to the current beneficiaries was that they were the farm labourers that came with the second farm owner. By law they also deserve that land as per Estia law.

He said after getting another farm for Johannes and his clan, they can then swap the people who are currently occupying the land meant for Johannes and his clan and give them back their original land.



Mahikeng Provincial Hospital experiencing medication shortages. Photo: Boitumelo Tshehle

MIRROR Briefs

UCT TO OFFER HIGH SCHOOL TUITION

The University of Cape Town is launching its own high school that will offer online curriculum programmes to learners, starting from 2022.

The first of its kind on the African continent, the programme will provide learners from Grades 8 to 11 with tertiary learning experience through its online high school programme, to be extended later to Grade 12s in 2023.

In a statement this week, UCT said the programme would be offered through the Curriculum Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS), under the Department of Basic Education's programme.

Each learner will have a personalised timetable, expert teacher and mentor support, dedicated career guidance and support and a broad range of clubs and support. - Vusi Xaba

LOOTED BANKNOTES IN CIRCULATION

The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) has warned consumers to be on the lookout for looted banknotes from the recently destroyed ATMs in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng which are currently being used in the country.

Consumers are also warned to take precautionary measures as to whom they are exchanging money with as you might find yourself having exchanged looted banknotes.

Of note of is that these notes might be stained. The central bank says that ATMs are equipped with technology that stain banknotes in the case of attack.

The process of protecting the banknotes defaces them so that they carry no monetary value.

What will also come as a shock for the looters is that footage obtained from cameras at looted ATMs in both Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal will be shared with the various law enforcements to track down the culprits.

More than 1 400 ATMs and branches were vandalized.

"The level levels of destruction, the degree of violence and the extent of human mobilization used to destroy infrastructure and perpetuate the scale of stealing was shocking."

"Sabric is very concerned about the loss of access to financial systems by the vulnerable, as these systems facilitate grant payments to recipients and act as payment points, enabling people to draw cash so they can feed their families," says chief executive Nischal Mewalall.

He says that in many cases, ATMs have been destroyed while in other cases, repair work would need to be carried out.

"Banks are currently undergoing a process to evaluate the full extent of the damage to fully quantify the net impact," he said.

Any person in possession of the notes is asked to report the matter to the SAPS at 0860 010 111.- Isaac Moledi

FREE ONLINE BUSINESS COURSE FOR WOMEN

WEConnect International and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) are offering a training opportunity to women in business to help them understand critical aspects of their businesses.

The programme is developed to assist women business owners to set their enterprises on a growth path. The programme is structured in five modules, which include revisiting your business plan, getting ready to grow, building a winning sales pitch, determining your capital requirements, digital marketing and leading towards growth.

Each module takes between 45 minutes to an hour to complete and is done at home. It started on July 15 and ends on September 30 2021.

Candidates will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the course.

To register use the link <https://weconnect.t/catalog/growwithconnect>

Consumer Eye

060 936 2673



AWARD-WINNING CONSUMER EDITOR LOOKS INTO YOUR COMPLAINTS

BANK AND OMBUDSMAN LEAVE PINKIE IN THE RED

PAID OFF HOME LOAN 15 YEARS AGO:

Premiums were not automatically stopped

By Thuli Zungu

Standard Bank is accused of enriching itself unjustifiably on a policy that was terminated when Pinkie Tendani of Mondeor, south of Gauteng paid off her bond 15 years ago. Tendani, 52, said when she paid off her bond, she was relieved to know that she owns her house and no one would take it away from her.

When she was awarded a feeding scheme tender six months later, she discovered that the bank had sent adverse information to the credit bureau for unpaid debit orders.

"With the low credit rating and adverse information on my profile I was going to lose the tender and with the advice of my banker at that desperate moment I took a loan of R387 000 against my bond account to settle these unpaid debit orders," she said.

Tendani said her banker should have known that if a bond is paid up, the bond cover ceases to exist, but nonetheless advised her to take a loan against it, said a mother of four. She said when she paid off her bond in 2005 the bank should have stopped debiting premiums as the policy came to an end in terms of clause 6.1 (a) and (b) of the policy but it was not.

"The premiums should have automatically stopped according to their own terms and conditions, but I now suffer because of the maladministration of their system," she said. Over the years as and when the debit orders bounced the bank was happy to top these onto her bond, she said.

She said it was only in 2018 when she asked the bank to send her the copy of her bond contract that she realised that she is persecuted for a policy that lapsed fifteen years.

"By that time, I had already repaid over R1 million which is triple the amount I had borrowed," Tendani said. Her current balance stands at R720 000 and is repaying R7 200 a month without fail, she said. When she raised this error three years ago Standard Bank admitted the error but insisted on refunding half the amount on the ground her matter had prescribed.

She said the bank would have continued to debit her account if she did not pick it up as they had failed to do so when they were expected to do so.

"The bank shifted the blame to me and said they should have raised their unauthorised debit order before the end of 2008, when there would have been no need for me to do so had they terminated the policy," Tendani said.

It was with the intervention of the Banking Ombudsman that Standard bank admitted its error. What was most unfair was that the Banking Ombuds felt that the bank should only repay her half the amount.

At first the banking Ombud ruled in favour of the bank and later in her after she challenged their finding.

She said what frustrated her the most is that the Banks Ombudsman regards fraud (unauthorised debit) as an error. The Ombuds finding which Consumer Eye has seen states that the bank made

an error and the assurance premiums were debited on her account since 2005 until she cancelled them. (the cancellation was in 2018) "Our office (Banking Ombuds) made a finding that the said policy terminated in 2005 and as a result you should be refunded your premiums that were debited on your account," the Ombuds finding reads.

It further reads "Since your cause of complaint dates back to 2005, and in considering all the facts of the matter, we therefore found that the bank must refund you 50% of all the premiums debited from your bond account since 2005 and the bank agreed with our recommendation."

This bank error and finding of the Banking Ombuds do not solve Ngwenya's problem, as it favours the bank more than her as an aggrieved consumer, she said.

She said while this injustice prevailed her family was forced to borrow from everyone just to maintain these false instalments.

"Clearly, according to the banking Ombuds the bank must be enriched at my expense because I still have to repay half of these debit orders which are unjustified.

Where is justice in this?" said a baffled Tendani. Her business failed and she became a talk of the town because she was borrowing from anyone who could assist her financially.

"We were robbed of our financial freedom and an opportunity to give our children a proper meal and better education," she said "I have asked both the bank and ombudsman that if the bank has made an error, then why should we suffer the con-

sequences?

I can't get the proper answer," she said. On the May 2019 banks ombudsman ruling says that in all matters law must be applied. "So which law says the debt that accumulated because of the bank's error should be ours," she asked. Instead, the Banks Ombudsman advised her to approach the courts as they won't change their minds, said Tendani.

Tendani said after contacting Consumer Eye she was advised that she signed a second policy.

"Why is this raised now and why does it have the same number as the terminated one and the amount has never been adjusted," she said

Tendani said another sad thing is that when completing the Ombuds assistant forms she was required to sign her rights away by stating that she would not have the media involved. Tendani said she is as good as dead, considering what the Ombudsman has done to her.

Standard Bank spokesperson Ross Linstrom said the bank participated in the process as set down by the Banking Ombud and supplied them with all the relevant information they needed to make their findings.

He said they have complied with the Ombud's findings adding that if Tendani still feels aggrieved that her matter was not properly investigated she should approach the Ombud again.

Standard Bank and the Ombudsman have now arranged an urgent meeting with Tendani to try and resolve her matter. The meeting is scheduled for the coming week.



AROMA: Hang-outs like Coffefe Roastery in Joburg's Birdhaven suburb attract droves of lovers of genuine coffee. The owners, Larry Hodes and Marco Da Silva, say they were inspired by their combined love and appreciation for coffee "without the usual side order of pretention".

By Thuli Zungu

Come October 30th of October 2021 coffee lovers will start enjoying the best of it when the new R1154 regulations relating to coffee, chicory and related products will come into force. Last October the department of agriculture, land reform and rural development issued the R1154 coffee regulations in terms of the legislation that allows them to set standards for agricultural products.

The regulations specify 12 different categories of coffee, chicory and related products that range from pure coffee to pure chicory, this includes

mixed coffee or coffee mixture which must be at least 75 % ground coffee.

There you have it! Anything less than that, reject it with the contempt it deserves, as it would be fong kong coffee and outlawed. Currently Ricoffy only has 32.5 percent chicory and therefore can't be classified as coffee or mixed coffee.

Before this regulation there was no specific food law to regulate all of these different coffee and chicory products under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act or the Agricultural



WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE

NEW REGULATIONS: Chicory cannot be classified as such

Products Standards Act. However, the Consumer Protection Act is relevant in terms of the misleading names that have been used to describe these products, said Janusz Luterek. Luterek is a senior partner, Patent Attorney and Professional Engineer at Hahn & Hahn Attorneys.

Hahn & Hahn is the only South African member of the Food Lawyers Network (FLN), an international network of food lawyers around the world and through this network they are able to assist clients to get advice in other jurisdictions as well.

Luterek, in his article on Consumer and Food law, says that food law can be described as the intersection of all the various laws which regulate food sale, production, processing, and distribution, and food science and engineering to enable a thorough and practical understanding of these laws.

Luterek said the promulgation of the R1154 coffee regulations is a step in the right direction as prior to this these products remained fairly unregulated in terms of the specific requirements, standards and categories of these products.

The Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants

Act and Agricultural Products Standards Act did not have a regulation dealing with coffee and chicory products up until now.

In addition, each of the relevant Acts have a plethora of sometimes overlapping regulations promulgated thereunder to which the South African National Standards should be added, some of which are compulsory depending on the foodstuff concerned, he said. An example of the complexity is the labelling of Genetically Modified foodstuffs where the Department of Health has a regulation requiring labelling of foodstuffs where its nutritional nature has been altered and even permitting its functional claims, he said.

Luterek said the Consumer Protection Act requires the labelling of all foodstuffs which have in excess of 5% GM content to be labelled, without change, "Contains Genetically Modified Organisms".

He said that these Acts and Regulations are constantly being revised and updated, often without due concern for how changes to one affect other related Acts and Regulations. There are also allied fields of Sport and Health Supplements and Cosmetics which have their own regulatory regimes, Luterek said.

IKUSASA CAREER GUIDE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

INVENTIVE SOWETO YOUTH WOWS PUBLIC WITH INGENUOUS CREATIONS

CURIOS: He derived inspiration from his backyard mechanic dad



CREATIVE GENIUS: Bongane Mdakane with his train. Photo: Mohau Mofokeng

By Bongwe Mkhwanazi

A 21-year-old Soweto young man has caught the public eye with his ingenious mechanical creations that reveal a potential for him to pursue a career in engineering.

The home of Bongani Mdakane in Tshiawelo has turned into a museum of hand-made contraptions – thanks to his inventiveness. There are model cars and trains made from stripped beer and an assortment of wires and cardboard paper strips – all of which have captivated the neighbourhood. This is a passion that has occupied Mdakane's life since the age of 14.

The Tshiawelo lad said his friend had thought that he had lost his sanity in the beginning, when he started collecting beer cans for his project. "My uncle saved me from being the talk-of-the town by

helping me to collect the materials," he said.

Mdakane, who lives a stone's throw away from the Tshiawelo railway station, said he had become inspired after he had watched his father, who is a mechanic, working on different cars brought by his clients.

Mdakane, who describes himself as a naturally curious fellow, said he was eager to know what set vehicles in motion while his dad went about his daily business.

And, thanks to his father's guidance, Mdakane learned how to propel his five-coaches-long model train, which uses two miniature alternators and a switch to power it along on the wooden rails. His self-propelled train does not have windows, siren, or hooter.

He said he wants his dream to become a locomotive technician, engineer or designer to come

true by studying engineering. He also wishes to train other youths to follow his hobby. "I know that, with the experience I have acquired over the past seven years, I can pass this information to other youths who may also be interested in designing their own mobile toys," said the self-taught Mdakane.

Mdakane, who matriculated from the nearby Vuwani High School, said had he, short after completing his Grade 10 several years ago, followed on a hunch to enrol for engineering studies at a technical and vocational education and training college, he would be a qualified engineer by now.

His dream to have his own company where he could train other youth to design their own model trains and cars can be realised if he could partner with institutions like the Transport Sector Education and Training Authority (Transport Seta). This

SETA is responsible for skills development in transportation, which include cargo, railway commuter services, land transport, freight transportation.

Meanwhile, an official at the Molapo Further Education and Training (FET) College, told Weekly SA Mirror this week that Mdakane can register for a mechanical engineering diploma when their new registrations open soon.

The official said Mdakane would be required to enrol for a two year-long NQF Level or NQF Level 2 qualification. He will be required to enrol for an N1 to N2 in pure maths, science, theory, drawing and mechanical engineering.

For him to qualify, he would have to complete two years of study to be eligible for the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) funding depending on the parents' income and affordability.

STRONG CRAVING STARTS A LUCRATIVE CAKE MAKING VENTURE

INNOVATIONS: Entrepreneur ploughs back by training township youths

Baking and designing novelty cakes for various occasions is entrepreneurial innovator Tshepiso Nyakane's unique selling point, and these are such a high demand that, on a good week she fields up to twenty orders.

Nyakane's is best known for her delectable and exquisitely-designed birthday and wedding cakes which are made according to her clients' chosen themes or photo profiles. And, almost the same way as the famous American reality television star, Buddy Velasco's Cake Boss show, Nyakane's custom-made cakes can be made to chime the customer's favourite melodies. Among Nyakane's myriad novelty cakes is one that can be seen spewing out hundred rand notes while peeling hip hop music star Big Zulu's ditty, Imali Eningi.

But, it took a pregnancy-related craving for a delicious cake and a WhatsApp status showing Nyakane's first few pretty cakes for Nyakane to leave her nine-to-five job and becoming self-employed. "When I was pregnant with my last born child, I had uncontrollable cravings for baked cream cakes; so, one day, I decided to bake one, and later posted its photograph on What-

sApp. Then one of my friends requested a similar cake for a baby shower. After that, the orders had started flowing in," she said.

Nyakane, who holds a degree in financial planning, and was brave enough to resign from a financial services company, where he was working as a financial broker, so that she could happily pursue his new-found passion.

And, for someone who had no formal training in the craft of cake-making, Nyakane has done very well, so far. "Initially, I did not know the pricings and had to "Google" them, so that my newly-established business would not run at a loss," said Nyakane, whose Protea Glen, Soweto-based company, Thee Gifted Hands, was registered in 2019.

She now intends to sort out her books for purposes of tax compliance. "I was encouraged to start a cake-making business when I had started making more money than I did from my regular job," said Nyakane,



YUMMY: Tshepiso Nyakane showing of some of her cakes. Photo: Mohau Mofokeng

kane, who receives 20 orders on a good week. The prices for her cakes range from R800 to R1 200. Nyakane may be based in a township, but she attracts patrons from the well-heeled types residing in the suburbs, and uses e-hailing taxi services for deliveries.

To plough back to her community, Nyakane trains about 15 people, mostly youngsters, each month, for a small fee, but wishes she had a sponsor. "I also run kiddies' classes, and my dream is to partner with local schools, to offer baking lessons," Nyakane said. To circumvent the Covid-19 related restrictions, Nyakane transplanted her cake-making lessons to social media, and has registered more than 100 new learners on her virtual cake-making academy on Instagram. Nyakane also helps her clients with marketing tips. She has also created a spreadsheet to help her students monitor their profits and losses.

"People are eager to start businesses, especially when they are making money doing what they love the most," Nyakane said. "So, I would like to encourage anyone who has a dream and passion, to just start with the little they may be having, and they can then grow from there."

Nyakane, works with four staffers, told Weekly SA Mirror that was not aware that she could receive funding for her business, and accreditation for her training, as well as qualifications for her apprentices from the Food and Beverages Sector Education and Training Authority (FoodBev Seta). Weekly SA Mirror has arranged with the FoodBev Seta to assist Nyakane with registration and the process she has to follow to qualify for discretionary funding, and a representative from the Seta is expected to visit Thee Gifted Hands, soon, to start the ball rolling.



SENSATION: Azana nominated in four SAMA categories

SMART, STYLISH AND TALENTED, THAT'S AZANA FOR YOU

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK: Like a ray of sunshine on a freezing winter morning

By Gugu Sibiyi

Refreshingly devoid of airs often associated with new found fame, Azana is welcoming and simply happy to chat about her changing fortunes. Especially when it pertains to her newly dropped debut offering *Ingoma* and the four SAMA nominations. "I've been nominated for Best Newcomer, Best AfroPop, Best Music Video and Record of the year."

"I'm so thrilled at such a welcome to the teak tough industry and to be shown such an overwhelming vote of confidence. Being mentioned in the same breath as heavy weights, is inspirational. It gives me hope that somebody has noticed the blood, sweat and tears I've put into my album. I still can't believe its brought me this far!"

Her infectious, melodic, single *Your Love* is

not only soaring through the charts, but has become a popular go to song at get together. It's also the most nominated. "I know people like it but I never expected it to blow this big. It's a blessing I'm grateful for" she says sincerely.

Bortshangasen Makhosazane in Chesterville, one of the townships outside Durban, the laidback singer concedes that she knew she was onto a good thing with her debut offering.

Tracks like *Uthando Iwangempela*, *Lovers* and *Best Friends* as well as *ithemba*, are doing extremely well.

"As much as I wrote the lyrics that made sense, its these talented producers who've weaved their magic around the project. The industry must look out for them" she says, proudly showering her team with praises for a job well done.

Already imbued with the hallmarks of a star,

the amiable Azana has been likened to Moseki. "It's definitely a compliment. After all I'm a great admirer of her work and would love to collaborate with her some day. Moseki is more of a seasoned artist and that comes out eloquently in her voice. I've just started out."

Elaborating, "Besides, her maturity makes our experiences different which is reflected in the way we articulate them in our music. Fans insist that our voices are similar and thought we'd done a duet when we haven't. I appreciate the confidence it gives me and my fans. If I'm linked to such a star, then my fans know they're in good company"

A law student, Azana says she's taken her elders' advice that pursuit of a good education always stands one in good stead. "I've heard of horror stories in industries across the spectrum.

Making informed decisions comes from education and later, acquired experience. I'm here and wish to learn as much as I can about the entertainment scene. In as much as I have, about the power of digital technology. My album dropped during lockdown but because of social media it has enjoyed a lot of support. A new avenue has opened. Imagine merging traditional and technological marketing tools how much success it can yield" she exclaims in wonder.

"Now that I've realised a long cherished dream of becoming a recording singer, I will tick off other desires on my wish list. I see myself also pursuing my theatrical and modelling aspirations. The time is right and God willing my degree will be done and dusted" says the tall, ocean kissed girl from the banana city, imploring the universe to make it happen for her.

MR CASANOVA'S LAST DANCE LEAVES FANS SADDENED

PAT SHANGE: Joining the celestial choir

By Gugu Sibiyi

He's said to have complained of feeling extremely cold before he was rushed to Chris Hani Baragwanath hospital in Soweto. He never came back, passing away two days later from diabetes-related complications.

Shange's repertoire kept the cash register ringing. However it was his larger than life stage performances and spellbinding moves that thrust him ahead of the pack. An artist who came into the fanfare of showbiz when festivals featured prominently on music lovers' diaries.

Performing along crème de la crème stars such as the late Brenda Fassie, Chicco, Yvonne Chaka

Chaka, Cheek to Cheek, and Mercy Pakela to name a few. He distinguished himself with his captivating moves and memorable sets. Now he's gone!

Taking a turn down memory lane, struggle Artist Blondie Makhene says he had the utmost respect for Shange's craftsmanship. "I got to know him well from bumping into him at festivals whenever we were sharing the stage. What I enjoyed the most were our backstage chats. We had a lot in common as artists and those heart to heart were reflective of our times."

"What I can attest to is that Pat was one of the best performers I've ever seen. He was electrifying and he made sure that if he performs before Blondie, he killed it. When he wrapped up, he ensured



DEPARTED: Pat Shange

that the crowd was blown away every minute he'd been on stage. Man, Pat had the moves" Makhene exclaims.

Phil Hollis who owned Dephon Promotions and Publishing, which was known for producing some of the cream of the crop stars in the country, says Shange's death is a blow to him.

"Pat was 19-years old when I signed him up. We met in Pietermaritzburg while he was with the Juveniles. I brought him to Joburg, got him an ID and a place to stay. That's how much I believed in him."

"He changed gears from mbaqanga to pop. Sweet Mama was the hit that launched him in a big way. I'm not your Casanova cemented his foothold

in the industry.

He won lots of awards and hearts because of his amazing stage performance.

"He and I did business together. Beyond that, we were friends. I'm really sad" says an emotional Hollis about the singer he's befriended for 41-years.

Shange might have not performed for a long time but he never left showbiz. Together with Hollis, continued hosting empowerment workshops for emerging talent. Minister Nathi Mthethwa presented him with *Indondo yeHeritage* and a certificate of excellence in 2014.

Shange is survived by his daughter, Ayanda. He will be buried in his home town of SweetWater in Pietermaritzburg.

THREE THEMES FOR FASHION BUSINESS

SMART DRESSING - SMART BUSINESS: The essentials to run a successful fashion Image & Business

By Mpumi Brown

The fashion business is struggling during these pandemic times. This brings forth the tools required for a fashion online or retail business to utilise three themes which will boost engagement, business morale and sales.

One of the themes to delve into, is creating a human-

touch lost walk-in shopping experiences that provide retail therapy and the physical touching of the garments.

The other two themes are to refocus on maximising sales and engagement with local customers and refining customer niche.

The themes identified for fashion businesses and consumers for 2021 include:



KEY TREND: Celebrity stylist Allison Bornstein says "less is more."



OWN & BUY THE PIECES YOU NEED: Classics - Essentials. Photo: Sandra Semburg



MENS CLASSIC: Maxhosa winter knit jersey - Local is lekker

LESS IS MORE

Due to the change in times, more products do not necessarily yield more profits, according to McKinsey senior partner Achim Berg.

"The reality is that the consumer currently wants less. The consumer also wants more clarity. Brands are trying to achieve that."

This exposes the quality versus quantity factor in fashion businesses and their approach. The customers have also minimised their spending in retail stores due to unemployment.

As stated by Josie Warden Head of Regenerative Design, "52% intend to make long-term changes to their fashion consumption, including a third of women who say they will be purchasing fewer items of clothing in the future".

Celebrity stylist Allison Bornstein says that "we should drill down to the essentials and buy clothes that we actually like".

"This less is more" approach also looks at styling techniques and merchandising.

TRAVEL INTERRUPTED

Another theme for fashion business 2021 includes the decrease of tourism due to COVID-19, which has hindered and disrupted the growth of foreign trade and tourist purchases.

Fashion companies and small fashion businesses need to engage with their local customers and make strategic investments in recovering markets.

Companies must communicate, engage, and interact with customers in new

ways. At the same time, consumption is changing.

Because consumers are looking for purpose and sustainability, a company's mission is becoming more important than ever.

The Business of Fashion says, "fashion companies will need to engage better and make strategic investments in fashion markets to unlock new revenue opportunities".



ONLINE SHOPPING: E-commerce growth



HUMAN INTERACTION: New shoppers' experience

DIGITAL SPRINT

Digital adaptation, virtual customer service and social shopping are key factors that fashion businesses must optimise to increase online experience to integrate human touch - in a textile field.

"E-commerce is clearly not offsetting the sales decline in stores. Nevertheless, it has been a lifeline for fashion brands as stores have been shuttered—and it will continue to be critical during and after the recovery period," says Antonio Gonzalo of The Business of Fashion

Utilising at least one of these themes will bring you fashionistas, loyal customers and fashion lovers that love genuine retail space the themes will provide. Fashion companies that double down on strategy, align with key trends, and reflect an evolving consumer landscape are likely to emerge from the crisis stronger, leaner and ready to thrive in the next normal.



Babouche by Tobi Onabolu x Kkerele: Photo: @ifebusola_s

IMPORTANT FASHION DATES

31 JULY.....	RICHARDS BAY FASHION WALK
9 - 15 SEPTEMBER	NEW YORK FASHION WEEK
13 SEPTEMBER.....	MET GALA
17- 21 SEPTEMBER	LONDON FASHION WEEK
22-28 SEPTEMBER.....	MILAN FASHION WEEK
SEPTEMBER (TBC.....)	SOUTH AFRICA FASHION WEEK
27 SEPTEMBER 6 OCTOBER	PARIS FASHION WEEK
5-7 OCTOBER.....	BEAUTYWORLD MIDDLE EAST
15 - 17 OCTOBER	PORTUGAL FASHION
20 - 25 OCTOBER.....	SEAU FASHION WEEK
24 - 25 OCTOBER.....	VACOUVER FASHION WEEK
26 NOVEMBER.....	BLACK FRIDAY
6 - 10 DECEMBER.....	NEW YORK FASHION WEEK PRE-FALL & FALL/WINTER



ARTY: The panoramic views that greet visitors to Tulbagh's Saronsberg winery with its magnificent contemporary sculptures

SHEER ROMANCE WITH GLORIOUS SHIRAZ

PEPPERY: The grape's exuberant character makes it compatible with equally robust dishes...



Wine-ly Yours

By Len Maseko

A breezy drive of approximately an hour-and-a-half hours northwards from Cape Town to the remote town of Tulbagh can be the most rewarding and soul-edifying – that is, if one is an incurable Shiraz romantic and drools over a glass of delectable wine made from the grape.

Of course, nearby Cape winelands routes might just tend to your hankering, since they already offer a myriad choices of exquisite Shiraz wines within a short distance. Yet, a drive out of the concrete jungle to the countryside, navigating the long-winded roads in search of a vinous adventure, might just provide a perfect remedy for a parched soul needing a tranquil, breath-taking drive. Well, for some, it may well be worth the scenic trip just for a different wine experience that expands one's tasting horizons. Mores so, especially, when the destination beckoning yonder is



FINESSE: Saronsberg cellarmaster and winemaker Dewaldt Heyns and marketing manager Mandy Dewing sample wines from the cellar

the magnificent Saronsberg winery, the famous landmark in Tulbagh that is part of the local wine route and which attracts a steady drove of tourists to this far-flung town all year round.

The town was named after the colonial Cape governor, Ryk Tulbagh, and boasts some Cape Dutch and Victorian architecture. On September 1969, Tulbagh experienced what was described as the most destructive earthquake in South African history. The occurrence was felt as far as Durban, about 1175km away from Tulbagh.

Notably, Saronsberg's name is indivisible from Shiraz – as is its association with the grape's sister varieties that trace their origins in Southern France and the Rhône, such as Grenache and Mourvèdre. Thus, this Tulbagh winery is famous as much for its blends like its Shiraz-blend like Full Circle as it is largely for its award-winning Shiraz wines.

So, it came as no great wonder recently that, once again, the winery produced one of the Top 12 Shiraz winners at the 9th annual Shiraz Challenge in Paarl a fortnight ago. The awards were hosted by the cultivar association, Shiraz SA, which singles out what are renowned as the best Shiraz wines every year. And if, as they say, a team is as good as its last game, Saronsberg cellarmaster Dewaldt Heyns lapped up a proud moment when his Saronsberg Shiraz 2019 was named among the Top 12 Shiraz champions of 2021.

The affable Heyns, who has been a head winemaker at Saronsberg since 2003, has garnered many accolades for his fine wines in the past two decades.

Thanks for his passion and meticulous hand that directs every aspect of the winemaking

process at the cellar and vineyards— from hand-picking, sorting of the berries, a gravity-fed fermentation cellar. His beady eye has ensured the resounding success for the winery and his team, which includes owner Nick van der Huyssteen and marketing manager Mandy Dewing.

In 2008, Dewaldt joined the prestigious Cape Winemakers Guild, which consists of the crème de la crème of South Africa's winemakers and hosts an annual auction of exclusive young fine wines from crafted by its select members.

So coveted are the winery's Shiraz wines that Saronsberg Die Erf Shiraz 2017 fetched a maximum price of just over R8 000 a case of six bottles at the guild's auction last year – about R1 400 a bottle. In the Shiraz category, Saronsberg was eclipsed only by the Cederberg Teen Die Hoog Shiraz 2018 which was bought for an average case price of R12 190 at the auction.

Speaking at the 9th annual Shiraz Challenge, judges panel convenor Dr Andy Roediger remarked: "The quality of Shiraz wines keeps increasing and this makes it exceedingly difficult to select the winning wines as there are so many excellent wines at the top level.

"A tendency that has emerged during this year's judging, is that the wines tend to be more fruit driven, making the differentiation compared to old world wines and other countries more distinctive.

Often aromatics come to the forefront rather than the herbaceous character of the old world, yet maintaining a full-bodied mouthfeel. Spiciness is evident and perhaps to my mind the pepper notes were not as evident as years gone by.

Lower alcohol levels are also apparent so, in summary the Shiraz wines are of earlier drinking styles than in years gone by," Roediger added.

PAIRING SHIRAZ WITH FOOD

Shiraz is described as having a unique exuberant character and therefore one would naturally pair it with equally boisterous types of food. One of South Africa's gastronomic gurus, Katinka van Niekerk, advises that food that can be paired with Shiraz broadly falls into four quadrants

FOOD WITH STRONG, POWERFUL FLAVOURS

Hearty stews, casseroles and South Africa's very own "potjies" fall into this category. Slow-cooked dishes, usually made with less tender cuts of meat, are full-flavoured and work extremely well with Shiraz. Herb-roasted and spiced meats and vegetables are also good matches for this variety.

ALL FORMS OF GAME

From venison pie to kudu or ostrich steak, roast duck, rabbit or springbok, Shiraz with its inherent gaminess, is an excellent partner.

GRILLED, BRAAIED OR BARBEQUED FOOD AS WELL AS CHARCUTERIE

One of Shiraz's well-known characteristics is its smokiness. Foods prepared in this way are paired with Shiraz with huge success.

SWEET SAUCES, JELLIES AND RELISHES

These sauces, often sweet and made from full-ripe berries or other fruit that traditionally accompany dishes such as roasted meats, simply call for Shiraz.

CHEESE

The principle of teaming up the strong flavours of Shiraz with the equally strong flavours of a cheese may not necessarily turn out to be a match made in heaven! However, there are some cheeses that go very well with Shiraz, for example, certain hard cow's milk cheeses, blue cheese, aged Cheddar, Gruyere, Manchego and slightly aged goat's cheese. But, mindful that these are just general guidelines and personal preference will eventually determine one's choice.

SOURCE: SHIRAZ SA

THE 12 BEST 2021 BEST SHIRAZ WINES

- Cederberg Shiraz 2018
- Driehoek Syrah 2019
- Koelfontein Shiraz 2019
- Landskroon Paul de Villiers Shiraz 2019
- Flagstone Dark Horse Shiraz 2017
- Neil Ellis Groenekloof Syrah 2019
- Glen Carlou Syrah 2019
- Rooiberg Winery Shiraz Reserve 2019
- Kleine Zalze Family Reserve Shiraz 2017
- Kleine Zalze Vineyard Selection Shiraz 2018
- Saronsberg Shiraz 2019
- Stellenbosch Vineyards Credo Shiraz 2018

SOURCE: Shiraz SA

Comment

STOP BLAME GAME, FIX NATIONAL SECURITY CAPACITY PROBLEM

This week has seen President Cyril Ramaphosa and his security cluster ministers proffering differing assessments over last week's wanton looting and massive destruction of properties in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng, fuelling speculation that there were serious issues of mistrust and disloyalty within the cabinet.

Relying on information gathered from his security ministers, Ramaphosa, who is also Commander-in-Chief of the cluster, declared these actions a revolt against the State and promised to crack down on those behind the orchestrated plan to bring the country to its economic knees. The police were blamed for dragging their feet to deal with the situation amid reports that only few of them were sent to quell the riots – and failed. Members of the SANDF were subsequently sent to maintain law and order in the troubled provinces. No sooner had the President made this pronouncement – that this was a failed insurrection – than the floodgates of conflicting statements opened and the blame game started. First, Defence Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula publicly rejected the President's view, saying this was just a counter-revolution in the form of criminality and thuggery.

Following strong criticism that the Intelligence networks were caught napping by the conflagration, Intelligence Minister Ayanda Dlodlo came out guns blazing, saying information regarding the pending attacks was submitted to the law enforcement agencies. This was denied by Police Minister Bheki Cele, who stressed that such information never reached his office. The spat has left South Africans alarmed, damaging public confidence in the Government's capacity to uphold the rule of law. Cabinet ministers cannot ignore protocol, throw their dirty linen in the public and even openly contradict their Commander who also happens to be the President of this country. Issues publicly raised by these ministers ought to have been raised, discussed and resolved behind closed doors.

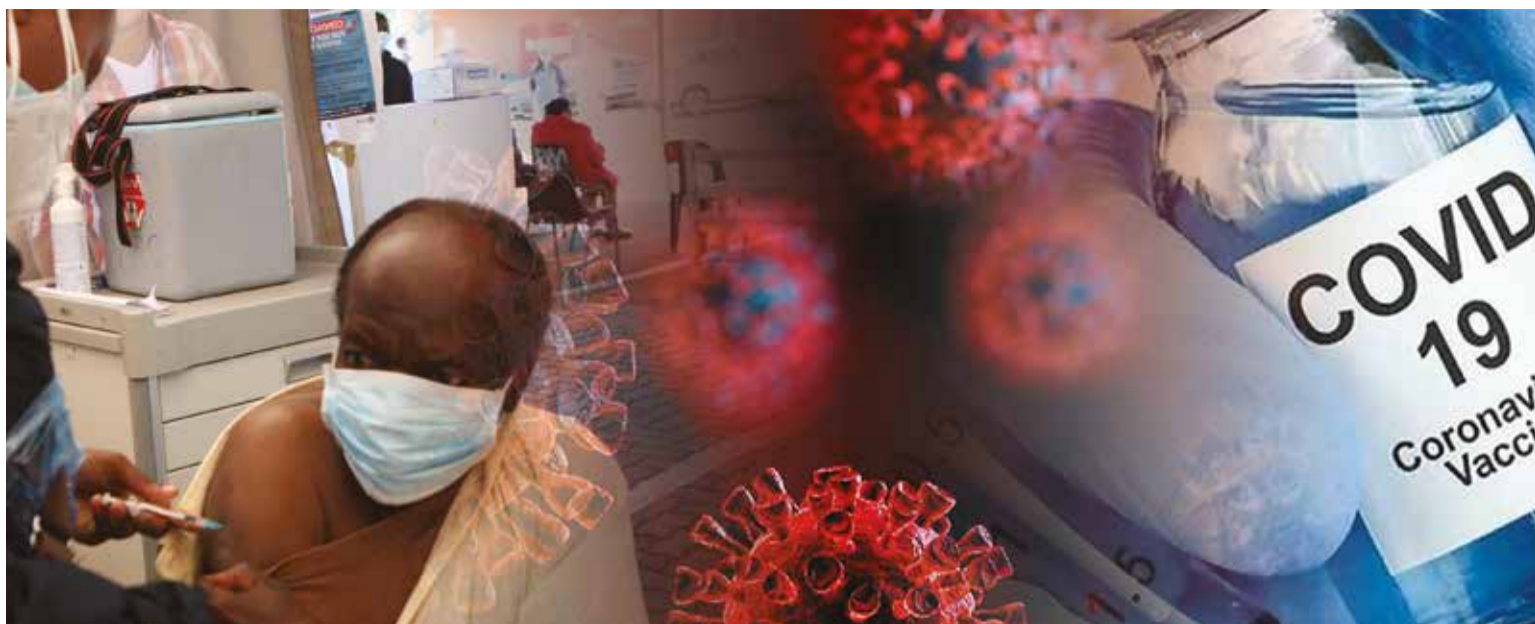
South Africa is a respected and trusted economic powerhouse on the continent and, thus, should not be seen to waver on critical domestic issues affecting its own security. Already the damage to property is estimated at almost R20 billion in KwaZulu-Natal only. Thousands of workers stand to lose jobs, buildings have been extensively damaged and ATMs looted and burnt. This is no time for the blame game and fidgeting, which is unfortunate and untimely. This is the time to restore confidence in the future of this country and make sure there is no repeat of what happened last week. What we need now is cogency, unity in action and closing of the ranks behind the President and his cabinet.

ANC PIVOTING ON HEELS OF FACTIONALISM

It is common knowledge that the enduring great divide between the poor and rich in this country is a conundrum that punctuates its daily reality, a blight that contributes to its ranking as one of the most unequal societies in the world.

Notably, this reality loomed large during last week's protests against the jailing of former president Jacob Zuma, and underscored the narrative advanced for the mayhem unexpectedly visited upon this country. No doubt unresolved socio-economic issues remain the undeniable elephant in the room whenever the national ills of this country are raised or create a spectre of national instability. And, no amount of filibustering can erase that reality, as well as the lingering threat posed by the ANC's apparent incapacity to redress the historical imbalances of our past. True, poverty remains a critical caveat to the stability of our democracy, a descriptor that ironically is tantamount to the crown that sits uneasily on the head of a divided nation, and which is choked by stark inequalities as well as the ramifications of an equally divided ruling party.

Inevitably, the greatest threat to South Africa's instability remains the ANC's inability to resolve its internecine internal strife, which essentially pivots on Zuma's legal predicaments, and continues to fester like a malignant wound. It is no doubt the party's ills that set the scenario for last week's conflagration and set it on a dangerous path.



EXPAND COVID-19 VACCINE PRODUCTION TO PROMOTE EQUITABLE ACCESS

LOPSIDED: Over 3,5 vaccines distributed globally, but 75 percent went to just 10 countries



WHO director-general
Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus



WTO director-general
Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

My sister Dr Ngozi, dear Mr Tang, Excellencies, members of the private sector, dear colleagues and friends, First of all, I would like to thank you, my sister Ngozi (World Trade Organisation Director-General: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala), and your colleagues at WTO for organizing this very important dialogue, and for your strong leadership in addressing the vaccine crisis.

I'm speaking to you from Tokyo, where earlier this morning I had the honour of addressing the International Olympic Committee. I told them that I had come to Tokyo to answer a question that I am often asked: when will the pandemic end? And my answer was simple: it will end when the world chooses to end it, because the solutions are in our hands.

We have all the tools we need: proven public health and social measures; rapid and accurate diagnostics; effective therapeutics including oxygen; and of course, powerful vaccines. And yet as we speak, we are in the early stages of another wave of infections and deaths.

The Delta variant is wreaking havoc around the world. Between now and when we finish our discussion today, more than 1500 people will die from COVID-19. How can this be, 19 months into the pandemic, and 7 months since the first vaccines were approved? Without doubt, the development, approval and rollout of safe and effective vaccines against COVID-19 less than a year after the first reported cases is a stunning scientific achievement, and a much-needed source of hope for bringing the pandemic under control.

And I would like to use this opportunity to thank the leaders of the private sector, the manufacturers who have joined us today. Congratulations for this very historic achievement. But there remains a shocking imbalance in the global distribution of vaccines. This has created a two-track pandemic: the haves are opening up, while the have-nots are locking down.

Over 3.5 billion vaccines have been distributed globally, but more than 75 percent of those have gone to just ten countries. Vaccine inequity is not only a moral failure, it is also epidemiologically

and economically self-defeating. Of course, vaccines alone cannot solve the pandemic. Rapid diagnostics and life-saving therapeutics are also vital.

Last month, I had the pleasure of meeting with DG Ngozi, my sister, and DG Tang to commit to working together more closely to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. We committed to intensified capacity building and providing robust joint technical assistance to countries on COVID-19 health, intellectual property and trade-related matters. Ngozi and I also are working closely together to advocate for immediate, innovative and sustainable solutions to ensure access to COVID-19 vaccines and other technologies. Our global targets are to vaccinate at least 10% of the population of every country by September, at least 40% by the end of the year, and 70% by mid-next year. These are the critical milestones we must reach together to end the pandemic.

To reach those targets, we need 11 billion doses of vaccine. Urgent dose sharing is vital to fill our current supply gap. But dose sharing is a short-term solution. We must spare no effort to increase vaccine supply for lower-income countries. We need to dramatically scale up the number of vaccines being produced. This can be done by removing the barriers to scaling up manufacturing, including through technology transfer, freeing up supply chains, and IP waivers.

I want to emphasise that WHO values highly the role of the private sector in the pandemic and in every area of health. The intellectual property system plays a vital role in fostering innovation of new tools to save lives. But this pandemic is an unprecedented crisis that demands unprecedented action. With so many lives on the line, profits and patents must come second. Of course, we can't snatch your property. What we're proposing is for high-income countries to provide incentives to the private sector because you deserve recognition, and we don't want you to have financial problems because of IP waiver.

WHO and our partners have also established a COVAX manufacturing taskforce, to increase supply in the short term, but also to build a platform for

sustainable vaccine manufacturing to support regional health security. As part of these efforts, this month, WHO and our COVAX partners announced the first COVID mRNA vaccine technology transfer hub, to be set up in South Africa.

WHO is also calling for expressions of interest to establish technology transfer hubs to assist countries acquire vaccine technology and know-how as rapidly as possible. We are calling on funders and industry to facilitate voluntary, transparent and non-exclusive licensing of patents, transfer of know-how and data through the COVID-19 Technology Access Pool, or C-TAP.

WHO has prequalified numerous health technologies including vaccines from manufacturers in middle-income countries. These manufacturers have shown that they can produce according to international standards of quality, safety and efficacy.

Through C-TAP, we will continue to provide technical assistance to companies to build capacity, especially in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

My friends, There are many diseases for which we lack vaccines, good tests and effective treatments. Not so for COVID-19. We have all the tools we need. That means ending the pandemic is not fundamentally a test of scientific discovery, financial muscle or industrial prowess; it's a test of character. Let's together address the serious challenge of vaccine inequity. Please help us achieve this 70% target of vaccinating the population in all countries.

I know we can do it, and I expect a strong support from the private sector to realise the 70% by mid-next year that could help us end the pandemic.

Whatever options we use, the most important is increasing the production capacity significantly so there is enough pie to share, there are enough vaccines to achieve the 70% by mid-next year and open up the world and bring lives and livelihoods to normality.

• This speech was Dr Ghebreyesus's opening remarks at the World Trade Organization – World Health Organization high-level dialogue on Wednesday



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HISTORICAL AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES OF ESWATINI

LINEAGE: Mangcamane national council says the Dlaminis are not Swazis, but originally mathonga

eSwatini ruler King Mswati III

The history of ESwatini has been deliberately hidThe history of eSwatini has been deliberately hidden from its people and the rest of the world.

History records that the present Dlamini leadership originally come from present-day Mozambique. They are not Swazis, but maThonga. History records (Webster, 1986) show that the height of the Thonga power was during the reign of Mabuda Tembe (Maputo and Maputaland in KZN are named after him). The consolidation of power in the area dislodged smaller clans like the Ngwane Dlamini who later founded the Swazi royal house (sic).

The Ngwane Dlaminis then trekked south to KwaZulu. Their migration is clearly evident from their own praises, 'bacedza Lubombo ngekuhle- hletela' (they finished (walking down) Lubombo Mountains by marching). King Zwide wanted to kill their leader, Somhlolo Dlamini, but they escaped northwards to eSwatini during the reign of King Khabangobe Maseko, who gave them refuge. They called the true emaSwati, Makhandzambhili (those found ahead).

In the 1840s, Dingane sought refuge among the Ngcamane after killing the Boers. Knowing that they (Boers) could not flush out, Dingane among the Ngcamane, the Boers conspired with Somhlolo's son, Mswati II, to murder Dingane in Swazi territory. Dingane was killed by the Dlaminis in what is today north KwaZulu Natal, eHlathikhulu, but was part of eSwatini then. The promised reward for Mswati II was land. When they went to claim their reward, the Boers told him to kill King Mgazi Maseko (Khabangobe's son) and he would (Mswati II) get territory far away from the Zulus.

In the previous generation, Mswati II's sister, Lambombotsi, had been offered to King Khabangobe as a wife. But the wise Khabangobe refused to marry her, giving an excuse of old age. King Mgazi (son of Khabangobe), feeling the pressure and being king, did not want to disappoint his refugee subjects, married the woman the Dlaminis had so wanted to dispose of.

The Dlamini refugees were so thirsty for power that they had expected King Mgazi to father the heir to the throne through their daughter. But she had committed numerous indiscretions with men such that the King had to get

rid of her. The Dlaminis realised that they would never have royal blood, so they decided to carry out murderous plan presented to them by the Boers in 1840, the same year Dingane was killed.

Coincidence? King Mgazi was not killed in a war situation. He was tricked into join a hunting party and stabbed while hunting, and succumbed to his injuries a while later after that.

The Boers only used Mswati to get what then came to be known as the Transvaal and left him with the small piece of land now called eSwatini. That is how eSwatini became so small a country.

On assumption of the monarchy of eSwatini they called themselves emaSwati. Meanwhile, King Mgazi's son, Sidinga, was sent into exile to the then Lesotho via the Free State, passing the border between what was Ligwa Vaal river, where he died.

Other Ngcamane parties fled in different directions to avoid detection. Hence there are the eMangcamane in Malawi under King Gomane III today (they could not pronounce 'Ngcamane' in Malawi,

so it became 'Gomane', Zambia, Zimbabwe, the Free State and the Eastern Cape (amaMfengu).

Subsequent generations of Ngcamanes and the Maseko Kings fled into present-day Lesotho because of the advancing Boers (a further reason why Lesotho is this small too). Up to today, the true Swazi Royal family is still in exile in Lesotho and the under King Luhleko Maseko. A lot of evidence to the above is hidden in the caves of Ncabanengi, now called Ncabaneni, the headquarters of Maseko Kings on the western part of eSwatini. That is why there are a lot of Masekos on the western eSwatini (Bhunya, Mankayane, KaLuhleko, etc).

The Dlaminis also assumed the culture of emaSwati, like incwala (first fruit ceremony) and added their own tradition of kuphuma kwebemanti (fething sea water from Mozambique) and whatever they do with the water as part of the ceremony.

eSWATINI

The country was named by King Maphanga Maseko, apparently because regiment warriors were using sticks (tinswati) to practice for war. It was not named after Mswati as is popularly known. The geographic borders of the Ngcamane territory went as far as Springs (Johannesburg) Lydenburg and down the Lubombo Mountains to the east and Pongola River in the south, up to Kosi Bay.

The land the "ESwatini government" is claiming from South Africa does truly belong to eSwatini, but eSwatini does not belong to the Dlaminis. A few years ago, "Prince" Bhekimpi (late Prime Minister of eSwatini) laid a claim that Maputo in Mozambique belongs to eSwatini. In fact, he should have correctly said they, Dlaminis, belong to Maputo, not that Maputo belongs to eSwatini. King Sidinga was buried at Sheradon, Free State.

His descendants further migrated with the BaSotho when Boers advanced chasing Moshoeshoe. These were MoSotho, Dumakude, Griffiths and presently Luhleko II.

It is for this reason that the true Ngcamane Royal family is still in exile in Lesotho, where still lives Luhleko Maseko today. – Statement from **MaNgcamane National Council**.

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THE MASEKO NGUNI KINGSHIP AND ITS PROGRESSION THROUGH TIME

1. Ndlovu Ntu (800 - 920 AD: The first Nguni King)
2. Khubonye Ntungwa Ndlovu (920 - 1010)
3. Maseko Khubonye Ndlovu (1009 -1100)
4. Mdandulukwane Maseko (1099 -1196)
5. Sidwabiluthuli Maseko (1190 -1296)
6. Mafu Maseko (1200 - 1295)
7. Ntshangase Maseko (1240 - 1380)
8. Luhleko Maseko I (1370 - 1480)
9. Nsele Maseko (1450 - 1536)
10. Ngcamane Maseko I (1530 -1640)
11. Maphanga Maseko (1640 -1760: The father to Gomani I/Ngcamane II who established the Maseko Ngoni in Malawi)
12. Khabangobe Maseko (1740 -1820: Arrival of King Sobhuza I in Swaziland)
13. Mgazi Maseko (1790 - 1840: assassinated by King Somhlolo in 1840 and was the last authentic Ngcamane Swazi King) Royal generations who were born in exile (outside Swaziland):
14. Sidzinga Maseko I (1840 - 1902: first king to be exiled)
15. Msutfu Maseko (1870 - 1960: born in exile)
16. Sidzinga Maseko II (Dumakude) (1906 -16.1.1988: born in exile)
17. Griffiths Maseko (1936 -1991: was in Lesotho)
18. Luhleko Maseko II (born in 1969, Lesotho, Crown Prince)

Source: JM Maseko



KING LUHLEKO II

WEEKLY SA

MIRROR
Insight to connect the dots...

Tributes & Obituaries



DR ABRAHAM 'ABBEY' NKOMO THE PEOPLE'S DOCTOR

By Titus Mafolo

THE hands that gave life to many have gone numb. The body whose skill revived countless hearts to beat loudly has frozen. The voice that shouted order so as to take the struggle for freedom to higher levels has muted. A glorious spirit that defined the life of Dr Abbey Nkomo, 'the people's doctor', has departed; the sun that warmed and brightened many lives has set.

Dr. Abbey Nkomo started his long political engagement as an active member of the ANC Youth League before liberation organisations were banned in 1960 in the aftermath of the Sharpeville massacre. Even when he was a student, first at Fort Hare and then at the Natal Medical University, when he came back to Tshwane, those youngsters who were to be active in PAC activities at Hofmeyr High such as Mark Shinnars attest to the fact that Dr Nkomo worked hard in the on-going mobilisations of the time. Once he qualified as a doctor, he saw at the

COMPASSION: Medico had abiding trust in quest for the oppressed to be masters of own agency

doors of his surgeries, people who, because of poverty, were condemned to perpetual illnesses; those who were overcome by the elements due to the absence or frailty of their habitats; those on the brink of death due to substance abuse; women disfigured because of abusing husbands and spouses; and those who chose to be insane because to be sane was to invite pain. But to his eternal glory, he treated all of them with passion, compassion, care and love.

Dr Nkomo also used his medical skills to help with the establishment of the centre for mentally-challenged youth in collaboration with Mama Zodwa Fanele. He later was to be involved in the organisation of medical practitioners as part of the United Democratic Front's mobilisation of people

on sectoral basis. He further mentored many aspirant doctors at MEDUNSA and ensured that they used their talents and skills to be part of the motive forces for change. As part of the Council Members at the then Northern Transvaal Technikon, Dr Nkomo imparted to the youth the value of education as a true liberator.

But for Dr Abbey Nkomo, it was at the local level where his extraordinary energies were expended. This was because he fervently believed in grassroots mobilisation. He had an abiding trust in the need for the oppressed to be the masters of their own agency. Through the Society for Creative Community, Dr Nkomo mobilised the community of Atteridgeville/ Saulsville to strive for self-suffi-

ciency and self-reliance, helping to instil a sense of frugality and prudent usage of the meagre resources at their disposal. Among others, the organisation sought to fight against the commercialisation of bereavements.

Indeed, in the 1980-1990 period, the great wheel of political revolution moved faster and furiously. Ordinarily, in many places, the struggle tended to transfer from legitimate but natural causes into irregular, uncontrollable and violent impulses, whirling with fearful celerity till it assumed fire from the rapidity of its own momentum and thus blazing onward, spreading conflagration and terrifying destruction everywhere.

A number of challenges arose during this period. As the insurrectionary conditions obtained from 1984, and organs of people's power became the norm in many townships, unavoidably, there were opportunists and agent provocateurs who rode on the bandwagon and sought to infuse criminality. - ANC TODAY publication.

By Monk Nkomo

To many of those who did not know him well, Dr. Abraham Sokhaya Nkomo was just a medical practitioner who was only confined to his profession of helping the sick. Nothing else. Little did they know that this diminutive and bespectacled figure was a fiery political activist and senior member of the ANC who strived for the liberation of his black people in this country. This was a man who had taken over the baton from his late father, Dr. William Frederick Nkomo, a world renowned teacher, medic and political activist.

Dr. Nkomo Snr. was one of the community and ANC leaders in Lady Selborne and Atteridgeville who were brave enough to challenge the apartheid government and its racist policies. His son took over from where he left and spearheaded the fight against the unjust laws and the government's policies of treating black people as sojourners in their own country.

Popularly known as "Bra Abbey", and together with other local and younger political activists, they formed a civic body, the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents Organization (ASRO) in 1984. Dr. Abbey Nkomo was elected chairman. Amongst its aims and objectives, ASRO, which comprised members of the ANC, wanted to col-

NKOMO WAS A FIERY POLITICAL ACTIVIST WHO FOUGHT FOR JUSTICE

RENT: ASRO wanted residents to pay R50 flat rate

lapse the community councils by calling on black councillors to resign.

This was because these councillors were actually being used by the apartheid government to carry out and implement its unjust laws. ASRO organized community meetings in the township urging residents not to pay the high rent that was reflected on their monthly accounts. They also held several marches, led by Nkomo calling on residents to pay a flat rate of R50 a month. Residents unanimously complied with the proposal.

The result ended with the City Council of Pretoria plunging the whole Atteridgeville township into darkness after the Atteridgeville Town Council failed to pay for the supply of power due to lack of funds. The plan to collapse the council

and render it useless was a success. Angered by the City Council's decision, residents, after a few days, retaliated by embarking on "Operation Tshuma" (Operation Light up) when they organized groups around the township carrying long step ladders to switch on the electricity supplies. Within a few hours the whole of Atteridgeville houses had their lights switched on.

This was also the time when the police and agents provocateurs intensified their interest on Dr. Nkomo. His consulting rooms were vandalized and his house petrol bombed. Once while I was with him at his surgery, he told me that even the Military Intelligence were keeping surveillance on his movements. He was also detained during the State of Emergency and released

without being charged. All this however did not deter him from his continued fight against the injustices of the apartheid regime. He prevailed unscathed.

As a medic, Dr. Nkomo helped many to heal from their ailments. I was one of them. I was on the brink of death when my father rushed me to Dr. Nkomo's surgery which was still in Chauke Street, Saulsville. It was on January 31, 1976 at around 3pm when I collapsed shortly after tying the knot with my wife at the Swiss Mission Presbyterian Church. This was a few hours before the engagement party that evening. When my condition worsened, my father rushed me to Dr. Nkomo who managed to stabilize me and asked my family to quickly take me to hospital. I regained consciousness after about two hours. I was admitted for a week. Upon my discharge I went to thank him for saving my life.

A humble person who always had an ear to listen to those around him, Dr. Nkomo's passing on shocked many Atteridgeville residents. He had barely buried his younger brother, popularly known as "KK" almost two months ago when he also left these shores. Born on June 1, 1940, Dr. Nkomo ran his race very well until July 10 this year.

May The Lord bless his soul.

FAREWELL DR SAM MAKHUDU GULUBE

HUMBLE: Recently retired secretary of defence and head of defence department held various leadership positions

By Vusi Mavimbela

Greetings Dr Sam Makhudu Gulube! Those who shared the combat trenches of the liberation struggle with you will salute you by the nom de guerre of Scientist Manifesto. I greet you from across the vast waters of the Atlantic Ocean. If this distance from where I greet you sounds too distant, you and I must at least remind ourselves that it is these very vast waters that conveyed millions of African slaves from our continent to the lands of the Americas. In that sense then I am not far away from you because our distance has been bridged by the human cruelty and the heroism that defined the Atlantic slave trade.

I salute you in this hour of your exit from this great theatre of our dreams, of our tribulations and our imperfections. It is Shakespeare who said all the world is a stage and all of us are mere actors. Some of the actors will enter this stage, play their part and depart leaving behind a legacy of great accomplishments that shall forever impact in many positive ways the lives of the people. However there are others who will enter this theatre, hobble along on stage and one day they will depart leaving behind a lasting unbearable stench of betrayal to the course of the people for liberation.

I could not be with you today at this defining hour but the least I could do is to convey this farewell message to you in the company of the National Flag of a liberated South Africa. You sacrificed your youthful life and dedicated it to the realisation of this Flag. This Flag represents your precious blood that you had surrendered to the struggle as

insurance for our liberation. You were prepared to lay down your life for this liberation to be achieved.

This Flag represents the black majority whose aspirations encapsulated the moral justification of the liberation struggle. It reflects the green and the gold as a measure of the natural endowments that should accrue to the people and nourish the character of their lives. I see in it the blue infinity of the oceans and the skies as they reflect the boundless expression of people's enterprising culture, their limitless hopes and their free spirit to scale the greatest of heights and the deepest of human inquiry. It is with great regret that I cannot touch your hand now and bid you a good farewell embrace that befits the loftiness of your liberation contribution. I however take solace in that you left us with this Flag; we owe it to you to protect what it represents, to uphold it at all times and hoist it high to the heavens on earth.

Dr Gulube, It is for that reason that I must conclude by apologising to you because of those that have entered the theatre of our lives, not to hoist this flag high but to desecrate it. As you depart today, you leave behind an unbearable stench of destruction caused by some who masquerade as your comrades still. As we bid you farewell, large segments of the country's infrastructure have been looted and set ablaze by some who masquerade as your comrades still. They too make bold and loud claims still that they are upholders and defenders of this very Flag and the plight of the poor. They have looted the country's family silver and sold it to the highest bidder, but they too claim to be revolutionaries still. They have infiltrated and gutted



Patriot: Dr Sam Makhudu Gulube

different institutions of democracy, accountability, law enforcement and service delivery, but they too claim to be revolutionaries still. They have flouted fundamental precepts of the Constitution, the judiciary and the rule of law, yet they also claim to be revolutionaries still.

They have barricaded the highways, seaports and rendered delivery to the people unworkable, but they too claim to be revolutionaries still. Their coldly calculated actions have led to the tragic deaths of many innocent poor people, but they claim to be revolutionaries still. Their actions have disabled the flow of goods and services to South Africa's neighbouring countries, making the poor of those countries to endure further hardships but they also claim to be revolutionary still.

Pixley Ka Isaka Seme, more than a century ago, admonished us against the spectre of racialism and ethnicity. Today his white bones must have been greatly disturbed because there are those shadowy characters that have resorted to social media and have unashamedly fanned the fires of racialism, ethnicity and xenophobia that has led to the loss of human life and yet they boldly claim to be revolutionaries still.

Dr Gulube, we can only pledge our commitment to work hard to uphold and defend the principles that made you fight for liberation.

However we should never and can never forgive ourselves for the damage that we have done to the aspiration of the people for speedy and full emancipation.



DEPARTED: Literary journalist Saint P Molakeng

HUMAN BEINGS ARE LIKE TREES, WITH MANY BRANCHES

LITERARY: He was a keen-eyed, talented wordsmith passionate about books and journalism...

By Victor Mecoamere

Arguably, a human being is like a tree: one root and stem, many branches and an inordinately higher number of leaves.

So, I would lie to assert, humbly, that it can be argued that recently departed former colleague at Sowetan, Saint Papa Molakeng – who sadly passed on due to complications related to diabetes – was also like a tree, as he had been one person who had a myriad friends for various seasons and reasons.

And this is exactly why his untimely death at the weekend – aged 51, leaving an equally-devastated wife, four children, three brothers and two sisters, as well as countless buddies – is hard to accept.

This is because, besides being a loving and loveable person, Molakeng made friends, easily, and treasured acquaintances. One of his bosom buddies, former Sunday World editor and author Sandile Memela, said this week that Molakeng's

departure had left the local journalism canvas emptier. This is true because this was one exceptional articulator who had made a mark as a feature writer, columnist and book reviewer for publications including Sowetan, Weekly Mail, New Nation, New Age, and True Love and Drum magazines.

But, what was unbeknown to many, was that Molakeng was a keen-eyed literary editor and proof-reader, and had coincidentally helped enhance several books by the self-same Memela. I met Molakeng in the mid-nineties and we used to ride the same train to work, at Sowetan, in Industria, west of Johannesburg.

These train journeys – especially in the morning – used to be dull without the daily, albeit informal lectures from legendary poet Don "Zinga" Mattered, who was Sowetan's associate editor. Besides being extremely talented, Molakeng held a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Wits University (2002), and an Honours degree in journalism (2007) from the University of South

Africa. Molakeng was also a quixotic character.

Illustratively, we had all known him at Sowetan to be Tshokolo Molakeng, but, somehow, he was able to convince all and sundry that he had changed his "handle" to SaintPapa Molakeng, and this had stuck to the end, as it were.

Most of Molakeng's pals, especially in the newspaper arena, flooded social media with heartfelt tributes.

Molakeng's distraught wife, Mmapaballo, her torn brother, Thapelo Mokoena and Molakeng's brother, Senku, told Weekly SA Mirror that they were unanimous on one trait that had set the man apart: he was loving, loveable, made friends, easily, and had a string of long time cronies, loved sports, especially soccer and was a staunch Kaizer chiefs supporter, had a healthy sense of humour and was an avid reader.

Said Mmapaballo, "He was also a doting and adoring father to his children five year old Kutlwano, 12 year old Naledi, Katleho (26) and Kamohelo (28). Saint loved us all, dearly. But he had a very short fuse."

Molakeng, who was born in Ventersdorp, studied at the local Boikhutso Primary School and later at Thulare High School in Lebotlwane, North West.

He will be buried at Ruigtesloot, Hammansraal, North West on Saturday July 24.

Aubrey Dundubala Mokoena was born in Orlando West, Johannesburg in 1948 to Steven and Rossetta Mokoena, but due to his mother's bad health, he was brought up by a family friend, Mrs Anna Khomo. Even though his parents were unhappy to move to Johannesburg, they were forced to do so to look for work. They would almost every year undertake trips to the Free State to visit the graves of his relatives.

Although it was quite easy for the Mokoenas to find work, like most black families, they found it more difficult to find a family home in Johannesburg until James Mpanza, a community leader who had taken over a piece of land in Orlando where he provided land for the homeless.

The government eventually extended Orlando West into the area, and it became Soweto. He was also a strong Christian and a member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, where his wife joined the Mother's Union. Aubrey Mokoena was introduced to politics by his father at the age of twelve who got involved with the African National Congress (ANC), although it was critical of Mpanza. He learnt about the potato boycott from his father, and from then on, potatoes were not eaten in either the Mokoena or Khomo households. It was also in this year that the ANC and Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) were banned.

In the Khomo house he was taught the value of education, and he developed a very close bond with his adoptive mother. He remembers how one day they were suddenly no longer provided with meals at school and how slogans about Bantu Education were painted on walls.

One day members of the ANC came to visit the school and said that a boycott should be started. Mokoena was very unhappy about this, as was Anna Khomo, but his father, who was a branch organiser in the ANC, told him they must do something to get equal education.

While Steven Mokoena made his son politically aware, Anna Khomo continued to insist that he continue his education. He completed school at Orlando West High, with his contemporary, Lindelwa Mabandla under Principal Mbathane, where he became Head Prefect in his last year.

When he completed school in 1969 he wanted to go to university, but could not afford the fees. He was able to get a teaching job at his old school, Orlando North in Mzimhlophe where he taught with Ohara Diseko.

In 1970, through a bursary awarded by the African Teachers' Association, he was able to enrol at the University of the North, popularly known as Turfloop. At university he founded the university choir and was chairman of the Students Christian Movement. In 1972, he was elected Vice-President of the SRC, alongside Onkgopotse Abraham Tiro who became President.

He was later elected chairman of the local South African Student's Association (SASO) and was thus part of the SASO executive that became very involved in resistance politics and particularly the Black Consciousness ideas of Black power.

That same year, as President of the SRC, Tiro gave the graduation speech which led to his expulsion from the university. The students began to protest and the university reacted by expelling the entire student body.

After a month, the university invited students to re-register but refused to register the SRC members, and instead expelled them and nine other activists. This led to student strikes and protests at other universities across the country, and more



THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF AUBREY DUNDUBALA MOKOENA

STRONG-WILLED: Multiple detention spells would not deter him from pushing for free south africa from oppressive regime

students were expelled from Fort Hare and Durban-Westville. This action led to a reawakening of political activity, and the formation of the Black People's Convention (BPC) and Black Communities' Programme of which Mokoena became a member.

At the insistence of Anna Khomo, Mokoena enrolled at UNISA to continue his degree, and got a job heading the Transvaal section of the Black Community Programme. From here he was able to help his community and develop and spread his political ideas. Although the government became concerned about the project, it did not attack the organisation directly.

It did however use other means of attack until 1974, when SASO organised Frelimo rallies with the independence of Mozambique. The government banned SASO rallies. Despite not going on with the rally in Johannesburg, unlike in Durban, Mokoena and others were detained.

Mokoena was tortured in detention while the police tried to find about the links that they presumed existed between Frelimo and BPC. He was released nine months later without being charged. He began his clinic again and later got married to Maleshane (Mally) Mokoena.

However, the clinic did not last long as the government began to clamp down on all programmes suspected to be linked to the Black Consciousness Movement.

When the 1976 the Soweto school uprising began, and the apartheid government blamed the Black Consciousness Movement, Mokoena was arrested again whilst SASO, BPC and other Black Consciousness organisations were banned.

From prison Mokoena wrote to Lybon Mabaso that 'Your silence is deafening', which Mabaso interpreted as a call for the organisations to resist banning by reorganising. AZAPO was founded in 1978, and Mabaso was arrested. A year later, they were all released, with Mokoena slapped with a five-year banning order.

Over the next few years Mokoena's political activities were restricted due to his banning order, which expired in 1983. At the end of his banning order, he felt AZAPO had taken an anti-ANC viewpoint and decided the ANC was his political home.

He decided to join and get involved with the United Democratic Front (UDF) in 1984.

Within the UDF, he became involved in the Release Mandela Campaign (RMC) and joined the anti-tricameral parliament campaign. He was again arrested, charged with treason in the Pietermaritzburg

Treason Trial. He was acquitted. He continued this work until he was arrested again in 1986 following the State of Emergency that was declared in 1985. On release he was once again banned.

Mokoena continued the fight for the release of political leaders through the Release Mandela Campaign which became his main political platform, working alongside Mama Winnie Mandela, MamGreta Ncapayi, Ntate Matthews and other leaders.

He was a leading force in assisting with the integration of the first group of political leaders that were released in 1989, including Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Wilton Mkwayi, Elias Motsoaledi and others.

After the unbanning of liberation movements, the release of Nelson Mandela in 1990 and the elections of 1994, Mokoena was appointed Member of the first Parliament where he served as chairperson of the Committees for Environmental Affairs and Tourism and Public Enterprises.- Mokoena family.

JUNIOR RAMUSI OOZED FINESSE, CHARISMA

JUNIOR RAMUSI: He kept goals in football, pitched in softball and administered sports in Limpopo

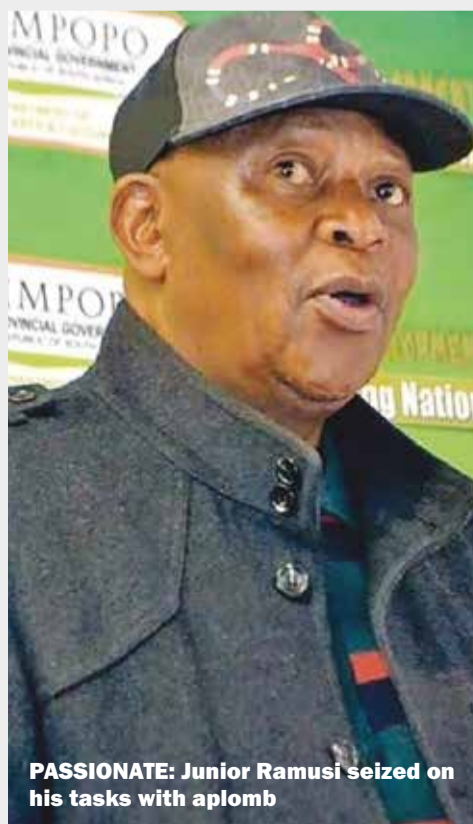
By Moyahabo Mabeba

The sudden passing of Sekgweng Isaiah Ramusi on Tuesday has sent shockwaves across the sports fraternity and political landscape. The son of the prominent legal eagle, the late Collins Molapateng Ramusi, the young man who would later be affectionately known as "Junior," was destined for greatness.

He was a lover of finer things in life and the world presented him with plentiful opportunities and means to explore the universe. His close-knit community of Mangata in Botlokwa is mourning the untimely death of a son of the soil who, during his formative years, revolutionised sport, particularly football and softball.

Like renowned voyager David Livingstone, Junior also considered himself quite an explorer during his formative years as he knew no boundaries. Oozing youthful exuberance, he kept the goals for soccer outfit, Mangata Blue Wales, where he is still on the lips of many as one of the club's greatest goalkeepers of all time. When the people of Botlokwa wanted to popularise softball among communities, "Lejava" was one of the active pioneers to of the game and went on to establish Botlokwa Giants Softball Club in the late 1980s.

A true leader with foresight and great aplomb, he led from the pitcher's mound with sheer drive and intellect. Giants became the standard bearers during the glorious days of the Great North Softball Association, competing against softball aristocrats in the



PASSIONATE: Junior Ramusi seized on his tasks with aplomb

province – thanks, in large measure, to Junior's leadership and dedication to the game.

It was his elegance and charisma that saw him rubbing shoulders with bigwigs in sport. When the defunct Seshogo Ria Stars and Mahwereleng Real Rovers wanted to communicate with their support bases, Junior became the mouthpiece who spoke eloquently on behalf of the clubs. His all-round round knowledge of sport became the springboard from which his illustrious public service career was launched. It was by no coincidence that the Limpopo provincial Department of Sports, Arts and Culture roped him in and elevated him to its greater echelons. His mandate was to take sports to a wider Milieu, a mission he executed that job with great judgment and skill. The man from the upper-class Ramusi clan always embraced his people from Botlokwa with a sense of pride and cheerfulness. When he met his "homies" away from Botlokwa, his signature greetings was: "Eh weso, objane naa? Ape ese boetsha ke hona ke bona motho ka wena Motlokwa...

Botsheele?" Like his father, he was a member of the African National Congress in good standing. Honouring his father posthumously, one of the ANC branches in Botlokwa assumed his name, Collins Ramusi. A go-getter and public relations dynamo, Junior rubbed shoulders with political heavyweights and sports administrators with finesse. Bar the details of his death,

Junior leaves behind a formidable legacy, which will always be cherished.

VUYISWA MARGARET LIETA “THANDI ZUMA”

COMRADE: A revolutionary giant, a leader and people's servant till the end



A revolutionary and a soldier of the people and an advocate for women's empowerment, Mrs. Vuyiswa Margaret Lieta (nee Tyobeka), combat name Thandi Zuma, was born on February 11 1954 to the late Zinyusile Tyobeka and Nancy Tyobeka (nee Kiti) in Queens-town, eBongweni. She was the only daughter amongst four brothers, three of whom - Vuyisile, Mlungisi and Wonga – passed on and the surviving brother, Mxolisi.

She started her schooling at Baptist Community School, proceeded to Van Coller Higher Primary, and completed her high school education at Nzima Nkulu. The passing of her parents placed a burden on her shoulders, and she had to choose between proceeding to obtain a tertiary qualification or to find employment to assist her siblings through their schooling. She chose the latter. She started working at Montay's Furniture Shop as a Sales lady and later proceeded to Fraser Furniture and to Royal Furniture.

She became involved in politics before she left the country. Before she left the country Cde Vuyiswa was actively involved in politics within the youth structures.

She was a member of the Queenstown Youth Organization (QEEYO). She was also actively involved in women structures under the leadership of Mama u Madabane Comrade Mbilini. Her activism was also seen within the United Democratic Front (UDF). At some point she rented a room that was used by the UDF leadership as a classroom for political education.

She also worked with Thozamile Gqwetha, Yure Mdyogolo, Derick Smoko and other comrades. Vuyiswa (Sis Thandi) swelled the ranks of Umkhonto we Sizwe in 1985.

She underwent her basic course in Cetschwayo Base in Caculama Camp in the Eastern part of Angola. She defied her age and gender and took part in all the strenuous and difficult training. She completed her basic military training and became a fully-fledged guerilla, a soldier of our people.

It is during her stay in the bushes of Angola that she distinguished herself as a mother figure to the younger female and male comrades, protecting the vulnerable and supporting the weak. Her passion led her giving guidance to the young female comrades and offered literacy classes to those who needed same. Her passion on women's struggles and empowerment saw her being appointed as a Commander for the women of MK in Angola.

She was the leader of a four-person structure of MK women leaders responsible for the socio-political upliftment of women soldiers, under the tutelage of Sis Thembi, the current Minister of Defense and Military Veterans, Hon. Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula.

Her leadership in this structure was formidable and showcased her as a politically matured cadre who understood the triple oppression that the South African women were faced with at the time.

Together with her team of leaders, she participated in various activities with the Organi-

zation of Angolan Women (OMA) and South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) women's organisation forging stronger relationships between these organizations and the ANC Women's Section.

Sis Thandi's political consciousness resulted in the camp administration identifying her as a candidate to be further trained in political education. She was selected to study in the German Democratic Republic (GDR) where she obtained a qualification in Social Sciences at Karl Marxstad in East Berlin. She later proceeded to acquire a Public Administration qualification in Sweden in the early 90s.

This is where she met her husband, Mr. Charles Lieta (combat name – Commissar Siphon Motswana). Upon her return to the country, she worked in different capacities both at provincial and municipal level including being a member of the Senate in the first administration.

She got married to Cde Charles Lieta in 1996. In the 13 years she spent in the Free State she proved herself with tireless efforts that earned her the respect of millions who were inspired by her commitment to democracy, women's empowerment, the eradication of poverty and civic engagement.

She further advanced these objectives through her service in the Free State Government, the ANCWL, and within the MK community.

She was outspoken and fought against gate keeping. She said: "We must not tire, we must

not give up, we must persist." Her legacy will stand as an example to all of us to persist in our pursuit of progress. In her pursuit for economic empowerment, she opened a clothing store in Bloemfontein Central.

She later joined the tough construction industry and participated in building low-cost houses. Her entrepreneurial spirit is shown also when she opened a Hair Salon at Norkem Park Mall in Kempton Park. At the time of her passing, she was pursuing her dream of being economically independent and expanding her business acumen.

Sis Thandi and Ms Nomathamsanqa Mas-hoala initiated a military veterans empowerment project; a sewing programme wherein 73 military veterans and their dependents (across associations) are receiving an accredited sewing project through the Gauteng City College.

This is a public and private partnership funded by the Department of Military Veterans and Hensoldt (a German Defence company). This course will ensure improved socio economic conditions of military veterans and their dependents.

Upon her return to Gauteng, she became a National Secretary for the Women Military Veterans of South Africa (WOMVASA). She also served as a member of the Advisory Council for the Minister of Defense and Military Veterans that was established through the Military Veterans Act.

She is survived by her husband Charles Siphon Lieta and her daughter Xoliswa.- ANC Today.



SPACIOUS: The interior of the seven-seater Mitsubishi Xpander

EXPANDER MOST AFFORDABLE MITSUBISHI

SEVEN SEATER: New terrain for Japanese brand



UGLY DUCKLING: The new Mitsubishi Xpander

By Ali Mphaki

Andizi! (I'm not going).

This apparently would be the response from the trophy to be won if the new Mitsubishi Xpander would contest for the title of the most beautiful car in the world.

Not that Mitsubishi is known for producing eye catching products, but the new Xpander, try as it may, cannot hide its similar looks with another bland Japanese brand that is ruling the seven seater SUV market in South Africa.

You wouldn't be far off the mark to say it's a copy and paste of the ubiquitous Toyota Avanza. You may also want to add how similar today's cars have become. There may as well be various noble reasons for Mitsubishi to enter the seven seater market with the launch of the Xpander.

After all, change is the only constant. But most importantly, Mitsubishi is responding to a growing five and seven seater SUV market where more and more people seem to prefer these than normal sedans. To this end, Mitsubishi has in recent years been moving away from producing sedans, the last on SA soil being the Lancer. A look at the company's SA lineup will reveal the dominance



of SUVs like the Outlander, Eclipse Cross, ASX, and Pajero.

Mitsubishi is quick to point out that the Xpander boast a face with a DNA stolen from its other models like the Pajero Sport. What distinguishes its front section from other seven seaters, apart from the Mitsubishi logo, is its daytime running lights and distinguishable fog and headlights.

There isn't much to write home about the interior. Hard plastic – probably because of the expected daily use of the vehicle - dominates door panels and the dash. But you will get electric windows all round, three 12V sockets, full automatic air-conditioning and a USB port. Beneath the bonnet is a naturally-aspirated 1.5-engine churning out 77kW and 141Nm.

The newcomer is available with a four-speed

automatic and a five-speed manual gearbox. The difference between auto and manual being that the auto comes with 16-inch alloys as standard with the manual stepping out in 15-inch alloys.

And while the beauty contest trophy may be unwilling to accompany the Xpander, it will be worth mentioning that

the discerning SA motoring public has warmed up the newcomer, if sales are anything to go by.

The buyers are coming in droves with June figures showing the Xpander clocking 65 units sold. This no doubt is an overwhelming support for the Xpander, which sold two less units than the legendary Pajero Sport.

Also, it may be that the Xpander evokes mixed feelings, but Mitsubishi is confident that brand loyalty will win it the day.

With a starting price of R299 995 it looks like, to steal from DStv Premier League, the Xpander is geared to "babize bonke" (come one come all).

It's going to be an interesting race among the various role players in this segment.

Pricing starts from R299 995

MOTORING: Briefs



2022 MERCEDES-AMG SL INTERIOR

If the rear seats aren't needed the wind deflector can protect front seat passengers from wind at the back of the neck. The headrests are visually integrated into the backrest to make them look sporty.

This is just a teaser of what we can expect from the new Mercedes Benz AMG-SL to be launched later this year. Mercedes says that "it will advance the iconic series with high comfort, remarkable design, precise driving dynamics and optimal packaging".

To that end Benz says its designers what they call "hyperanalog."

A good example is the full digital instrument cluster integrated into a three-dimensional visor. The 12.3-inch high-res LCD screen is integrated into a visor directly placed in front of the driver. The design prevents sun reflections. The 2022 version marks the first time the SL has had 2+2 seating for the first time since the 1989 R 129.

FLYING CARS TO COST MORE

The idea of personal-use flying cars was introduced in 1917 and to this day the whole concept of a plane/car mashup normal folks could actually buy mostly remains just that—an idea.

After taking into account the cost of the flying car itself, how much it would be to insure it, how much a flying license costs to acquire, how much it would cost to store and park the thing, the cost-to-benefit ratio seems pretty unappealing.

This is especially when you consider that the type of mogul that could afford a flying car likely already has a private jet or a helicopter at their disposal.

A grounded advice is that just save your money and buy a Ferrari.

You'll look better in it, and you'll probably have more fun driving it, too

2022 PASSAT OUT THE DOOR

Volkswagen announced its intention to drop the Passat from its lineup last year, and the 2022 model year will be this sedan's last in the U.S.

Nearly 50 years of Passat sales here aren't going out without a little fizzle, though. In conjunction with the death announcement, VW revealed a Limited Edition trim for the 2022 model year as a sendoff. It features a number of appearance and styling touches to pay homage to the city of Chattanooga where the Passat was manufactured since 2011.

The seats have tags on them reading "Chattanooga 2011" on one side and "1 of 1973" on the other. The latter stands for two things at once. VW plans to build 1,973 Limited Edition models, with the number chosen for the year Volkswagen launched the Passat in Germany — 1973.

FIAT'S ABARTH WILL BE ALL-ELECTRIC IN 2024

The Fiat 500 Electric is already on sale in Europe but the more important piece from Fiat's EV Day announcement is a performance-oriented one.

Abarth, the badge most recently associated with the snapping and crackling Fiat 500 Abarth, will become electrified.

As far as what that means for the Abarth badge, we assume it means Fiats wearing the Abarth scorpion will sport either more electric motors or more powerful motors than standard models.

The company could also make Abarth-badged Fiat cars sharper handling, to distinguish them from their entry-level stablemates. Ultimately, we're going to have to wait a few years to see how it all shakes out.

If you're an Abarth fan that still loves the snarling exhaust note of the 500 Abarth or the 124 Spider Abarth, there's no major shortage of those on the used market.

Whether you are facing an onslaught of unexpected medical bills, you recently lost your job, or your home has been hit by a hurricane or other natural disaster, one thing is certain: You need cash, and you need it now. Unfortunately, when a financial emergency crashes into everyday life, the vast majority of us are caught completely unprepared.

If you find yourself in this fix, you are not alone. If you need quick cash to cover an urgent expense, where do you turn? Here are seven smart ways to raise money quickly without causing irreparable harm to your finances.

1) LIQUIDATE YOUR ASSETS

Does the corner of your jewelry box hold your dad's Rolex, your mom's engagement ring, or a diamond pin you rarely wear? What about goodies tucked away in your closet—perhaps a fancy bridesmaid dress or your inherited great-aunt's fur coat? You also may be able to make fast cash by selling off recent-model electronics, like big-screen TVs, tablets, phones, laptops, and game consoles, as well as media like DVDs, CDs, books, and games. Or you can try posting them on Facebook, and Twitter; run an ad in your local newspaper; or peddle these pieces to friends and family members.

Depending on the quality of the garments, electronics, and media you're willing to sell, you could quickly rake in hundreds—or more—in much-needed cash.

2) TAKE ON ODD JOBS

If you don't have any high-value items to unload, you can try selling your services instead—especially if you are out of work and have time on your hands. You might babysit and/or pet-sit for friends or start up a neighborhood dog-walking service. If you're not up for dealing with dogs or kids, you might offer to mow the grass and wash cars for people in your neighborhood, or drive a neighbor's elderly aunt to her doctor's appointments. Or, if you enjoy driving, you might sign up to be a Lyft or Uber driver. You could also grocery shop for busy friends or the elderly offer to repair and paint your sister's dilapidated fence. Depending on how many

FIVE SMART WAYS TO RAISE CASH FAST

TOUGH TIMES: Think outside the box



jobs you take on and how much you charge for each task, you could scrape together a few hundred bucks within a single weekend.

3) TRACK DOWN YOUR LOOSE CHANGE

At first glance, this advice may seem a little absurd—but it's not a joke. According to a 2016 news report from Bloomberg, Americans throw away approximately \$61.8 million of coins in the trash each year.⁸ That's a lot of money stuffed in couch cushions, piggy banks, and old paint cans across the nation. Hunt around the house to collect all those hidden coins. Once you dig up every last cent, haul the trove to your local bank.

Some banks will count change for free for their customers, although others may require you to count and roll your change on your own. Either way, once you convert those coins to cash, you could have another hundred bucks to put toward your emergency expense.

4) ORGANIZE A GARAGE SALE

One man's trash is another man's treasure, as the saying goes. While garage and yard sales require a lot of work, they can bring in a decent chunk of change for some sellers. Be sure to advertise on Facebook (if you have a local group), your local newspaper (online as well as print), and church bulletins, and put up neon signs with black lettering in key locations to bring in as many people as possible.

5) BORROW MONEY FROM FRIENDS OR FAMILY

We saved this one for last because it really should be a last resort. While borrowing money from friends and relatives may be a quick fix, it can lead to some adverse consequences. When a loved one lends you some cash, it can put a strain on your relationship—especially if you don't pay the person back quickly. According to an article in Psychology Today, unpaid loans can lead to lingering bad feelings between the lender and borrower.¹³ If you plan on borrowing money, it's probably best to draw up a contract stating when you will begin to pay back the lender and if you will also pay interest on the money borrowed.



STREET MURALS PEP UP MAHIKENG'S DULL STREETS

By Boitumelo Tshehle

They beautify the streets of Mahikeng while trying to make a living at the same. Their artwork has grabbed the attention of residents who are now showing interest in the street wall murals crafted these young artists.

Through the artfulness of the artists, a dull stretch like Mahikeng's Sekame Road is no longer an eye-sore but a bright, breezy colourful thoroughfare – thanks to the freshly painted wall mural next to the local Montshioa Library, which has been turned into an attractive tourism attraction through the artists' collage of paintings.

Local artist Gert Tsatsimpe said he became part of the mural festival project because the wall gives artists an opportunity to express themselves.

"People don't have to go to art galleries to see your work, you can just walk in the street and see it. We advertise ourselves and have been getting quite a lot of jobs to sustain ourselves," he said.

To him, art in simple terms changes the world. "It changes everything, it also changes people's lives.

I was staying at home getting small jobs, but

EXPRESSIONS: A group of artists join hands to awaken locals' spirits through art

here I get more jobs," he said.

Next to his work is Dintle Mabile's graffiti.

The 19-year-old law student said she was inspired from an early age. Her artwork teaches people



that meaningful silence is better than meaningless words.

"I get comments as to how good my artwork is, and its fulfilling. I told myself I'm going to make a living out of it," she said.

For 26-year-old Legorama Kathanga, the street art was his first experience. "I have never done murals before; I usually paint on clothes and boards. For me it was like I paint on a different surface," he said.

His work represents a series of a spiritual journey. "The concept is a person who lives in a world that he feels trapped in. My hope is to awaken people's spirit and make them remember who they are. It's sort of a book that helps you discover who you are," he said.

Project manager Odirile Majatladi said he started the mural street festival with 28 artists after realising that there was nothing been done in the community to support artists.

"People are not used to artwork in public spaces. They perceive art just as art galleries. We want to take art to the people while we are beautifying our town," he said. He believes Mahikeng has talent that needs to be exposed.

REMEMBERING THE JOHN PASSMORE CRICKET WEEK

WHITE PLAYERS' CONTRIBUTION: Ali Bacher, Stan Anderson, Martin Rademeyer and Brian Basson will never be forgotten

It was strange to consider that in most cricketing countries, there was no such thing as a national schoolboys' week, and yet here in South Africa, in the 1970s and 80s we had three.

The first, the famous Nuffield week, is well known. Now known as the Khaya Majola Cricket Week.

The second, was known as the Perm Primary Schools Week, and was established for several years.

The third of the national schoolboy cricket weeks, was the John Passmore Week, and was little known in this country, and probably not even known about at all abroad.

It was named by the Africans after one of the South African Cricket Association Fund Trustees, John Passmore, a former chairman of the Western Province Cricket Club, as he had taken a keen interest in the establishment and subsequent development of cricket in Langa township of Cape Town.

The Passmore Cricket Week was first held in January 1971 and was held regularly every year

until Blacks were allowed to take part in the Nuffield Week in 1980's.

At the last moment, the first tournament was held at Langa, Cape Town, when it was found that Bloemfontein, the original choice, did not have one suitable ground - not that those at Langa had much to commend them.

They were, to say the least, very crude, but they did enable the tournament to "get off the ground."

Despite the fact that no school cricket was being played at any centre, no less than nine of the 10 affiliated "provinces" sent a schoolboys' team.

Transvaal, NE Transvaal, Griquas, OFS, WP, EP, Border, NE Districts and Transkei were represented. The absentee, Midlands, based in the Grahamstown-Fort Beaufort area, subsequently played in all the tournaments, and made a considerable contribution to the week.

Edward Habane, the star of the Tournaments, originally came from the Midlands, but it must be emphasised that he was far from being the only player of potential to emerge. The first

Tournament was, unlike Nuffield, played in the form of a competition and was won by Eastern Province. Subsequently, tournaments took place at Soweto, Johannesburg (1971/72 and again in 1972/73), Langa (1973/74), New Brighton, Port Elizabeth (1974/75), and Mdantsane, East London (1975/76).

A constant problem was to find a centre with a sufficient number of adequate grounds. One of the benefits of the Tournament was that nearly every centre, apart from having existing grounds brought somewhat closer to Tournament standards, actually built one or more grounds especially to take the Tournament.

White cricketers played a considerable part in the organisation of these earlier tournaments, and the names of Ali Bacher, Abe Levenstein, Stan Anderson, Martin Rademeyer, and Brian Bassano will always be associated with them.

The costs of the first Week were met by a grant from the SA Cricket Association Fund. However, its resources were not so great that it could continue to do so unaided year after year. A partner was



Dumile Mateza

TOUCHLINE MUSINGS

sought and fortunately the SA Breweries needed little persuasion as to the value of this project, and they acted as a partner in many subsequent tournaments.

Apart from Eastern Province, other winners of the tournament were Border and Midlands. The results highlighted the fact that the development of African cricket was confined almost exclusively to the isiXhosa speaking South Africans.

Most of the players originated from an area of the country embracing Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown, Queenstown, East London and including the Transkei.

The Blacks explained that it was in this region that the 1820 Settlers made their homes, and consequently the Blacks saw and understood the game over a long period. Habane, for example, started his cricket at the nets on a farm of an enthusiastic white cricketer near Grahamstown.

*More about this later in the coming edition.

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SPORTS: *Briefs***MANYONGA OUT FOR FOUR YEARS**

South Africa's Luvuyo Manyonga, who overcame a crystal meth addiction before going on to win the 2017 long jump world title in London, has received a four-year ban for whereabouts failures.

The usual period of two years has been doubled by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) because this is Manyonga's second anti-doping offence.

The 30-year-old athlete, who won silver at the Rio 2016 Olympics and gold at the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, and missed a medal by one place at the Doha 2019 World Championships, will thus be banned until December 22 2024.

That rules Manyonga out of both the Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024 Olympic Games, plus the next two editions of the World Athletics Championships.

After announcing his talent by winning the world under-20 title in 2010, Manyonga - who grew up in conditions of extreme poverty - was suspended for 18 months in 2012 after testing positive for methamphetamine - commonly known as crystal meth - having become addicted to the recreational drug "tik".

But he recovered his life and fortunes through the sport upon his return to competition.

The genial and flamboyant athlete made a huge impact on the circuit after recovering his career following his suspension, jumping beyond 8.60 metres on four occasions in 2017 and recording a best of 8.65m.

The AIU said Manyonga did not cooperate with the hearing process and declined several opportunities to attend a hearing last month.

He missed a doping test on November 26 2019, and registered a filing failure on both April 1 and October 1 in 2020.

Filing failures are when an athlete supplies inaccurate or insufficient information which means anti-doping officials are unable to carry out the drugs test.

Three missed tests or filing failures in a 12-month period constitutes an anti-doping rule violation.

In May last year Manyonga was fined after being arrested for drinking in public on the outskirts of Stellenbosch, which was a breach of his home nation's strict anti-coronavirus lockdown rules.

DUBE SIGNS FOR AMAKHOSI

Kaizer Chiefs have announced the signing of defender Austin Dube from National First Division side Richards Bay.

The Bafana Bafana star joins the Soweto giants on a three-year deal with the option to renew for a further two years.

The 28-year-old centre-back becomes Amakhosi's seventh signing during this transfer period. The move ends speculation as the defender was being linked with Chiefs since last season.

We would like to confirm the signing of Thabani Austin Dube" Chiefs announced on social media.

"The central defender joins Amakhosi from Richards Bay United on a three-year contract with a further two-year option. Dube recently lifted the Cosafa Cup with Bafana Bafana." said a statement from Chiefs

TWO JABS TO ATTEND A MATCH**COVID TIMES:** Scientists remain skeptical pending results from UEFA Euro '20**SUPER SPREADER:** Throngs of English fans outside the Wembley Stadium in London for the UEFA final

LONDON: Plans are being drawn up that will require football fans to prove they have had two doses of Covid vaccination before they can attend matches from the end of September.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced this week that everyone who wants to go to a nightclub in the autumn will have to be fully vaccinated. And he indicated that 'other venues where large crowds gather' could also be made to adopt the checks.

Sportmail understands that would include football matches and other sports events. If the measure is introduced, Government would be expected to fall back on the previous definition of 'large crowds', set out in step three of the roadmap out of lockdown, which was a capacity of 16,000 spectators.

However, the legal requirement on football fans to be vaccinated before they attend games - a negative Covid test would not be enough - will only come into force if coronavirus infections rates, deaths and hospitalisations are high or there are dangerous variants circulating. Research Programme, which revealed few infections linked to outdoor sports events.

However, results from the latest phase, which included much larger capacities at the Euro 2020 final and semi-finals are yet to be analysed and published.

The the scientists remain cautious about large

gatherings in the autumn and winter, when respiratory infections tend to flourish, if high levels of the virus are circulating.

While the risk to a supporter sat in their seat watching the game is considered minimal, there is a risk in travelling to matches by public transport and in congested areas within the stadium, including concourses and toilets.

Both the Premier League and EFL are understood to be seeking clarification on last night's announcement. The Prime Minister's willingness to enforce the requirement for Covid vaccinations by law, goes some way to meeting the demands of the Premier League. It has repeatedly called for the use of Covid Passports to maintain large crowds in the autumn and winter, even if the virus surges, as well as asking for a consistent approach.

However, the top flight, the EFL and other sports have said the passports should include proof of vaccination, but also evidence of a negative test of natural immunity from previous infection, in order to give everyone, the chance to attend the game.

The Prime Minister has taken a tougher line with nightclubs, which have been linked to higher levels of infections in test events. Mr Johnson, who is self-isolating at Chequers, said: 'As we said last week, we do reserve the right to mandate certification at any point if it is necessary to reduce trans-

mission.

Does the Delta variant spread outdoors easier than the original strain? It is 'very difficult to tell' whether the Indian 'Delta' variant spreads better outdoors than other strains, an expert said today. Officials have warned Britons against socialising indoors with people outside their household, saying this is the main way the virus spreads.

But they have said it is much safer to meet outdoors, because the circulating air blows virus particles away if one person is infected. Dr Julian Tang, a virologist at Leicester University, told MailOnline it was hard to estimate whether the mutant strain spreads better outdoors. But he said if someone was in a crowd outside and surrounded by other people who are infected they may be more at risk.

The virologist said: 'If you are in a crowd like Wembley or Wimbledon and you are exposed to eight people around you that are carrying the virus and don't know it, on a still and cloudy day you may be more exposed.'

He said the weather outdoors was a key factor in how well the virus transmits outdoors. 'Cloudy days when there is no wind are more of a risk,' he said.

'Sun rays have a direct effect on the virus. 'Studies show sunshine 'kills' virus particles, hampering its transmission. But this doesn't happen when there is cloud cover.

ANTI-SEX BEDS AT TOKYO OLYMPICS**SINGLE:** Made almost entirely out of renewable materials

Competitors arriving at the Tokyo Olympics have discovered something unusual about the beds in the athletes' village: They're made of cardboard.

Some have shared images on social media of the modular bed frames, which are made by the Japanese company Airweave and are recyclable. Organizers say it is the first time that the beds at the Games will be made almost entirely out of renewable materials. But in the time of the coronavirus, when Olympic organizers worried about transmission are trying to discourage close contact as much as possible, the unusual bed frames have led some to suggest there's another motive behind them.

Paul Chelimo, an American distance runner, speculated on Twitter that the beds were unable to support more than one person and were "aimed at avoiding intimacy among athletes." Soon the beds were being labeled on social media as "anti-sex."

Rhys McClenaghan, a gymnast from Ireland, called the claim "fake news." A video he posted on Twitter showed him jumping on his bed to dem-

onstrate that it could withstand vigorous activity. The official Olympics Twitter account reposted Mr. McClenaghan's video, adding: "Thanks for debunking the myth."

The plan for the 18,000 beds and mattresses - 8,000 will also be used for the Paralympics starting next month - was announced before the pandemic started and social distancing restrictions were first put in place, and they're sturdier than they look.

"Cardboard beds are actually stronger than the one made of wood or steel," Airweave said in a statement on Monday. The modular mattresses are customizable to suit athletes of all body types, and the beds can sustain up to 440 pounds, enough for even the most imposing Olympians.

But Olympic officials still prefer that athletes sleep alone while in Tokyo, and stay away from each other everywhere else as well. A playbook outlining safety measures advises Olympic participants to "avoid unnecessary forms of physical contact such as hugs, high-fives and handshakes."

To further discourage carousing, alcohol sales

will be banned. Condoms, which have been distributed at the Olympics since the Seoul Games in 1988, will be provided to encourage safe sex, but only about one-third as many as the record 450,000 handed out at the Rio Games in 2016. And Olympic officials have made it clear that they are intended for athletes to use only once they're back in their home countries.

The restrictions reflect widespread concern about the coronavirus as the Olympics get underway, especially with the highly contagious Delta variant fueling outbreaks around Asia. A strict testing regime has turned up dozens of positive results this month as more than 18,000 people have arrived in Tokyo for the Games.

Over the weekend, officials confirmed the first three cases inside the athletes' village, including one organizer and two competitors. Some athletes have pulled out of the Games over safety fears, while others, like the teenage American tennis star Coco Gauff, have withdrawn after testing positive.

- NEW YORK TIMES

MIROR SPORT

Insight to connect the dots...

EXCITING DStv PREMIERSHIP SEASON AHEAD



PREPARATIONS IN EARNEST: SIGNINGS, TRANSFERS AND RUMOURS ABOUND

By Ali Mphaki

The target is clear: To stop the runaway Mamelodi Sundowns train dead on its tracks. Worse still, to derail it. This is what is foremost on the minds of especially the teams that finished in the top eight bracket last season, as preparations for the new season moves into top gear.

The dominance of Mamelodi Sundowns in our premier league which saw them winning the league four times in a row, has somewhat rendered the league into a one-man contest. It cannot be that only one team continues to run roughshod over all 17 other teams in the league, a situation which does not bode well for our football.

But with Sundowns announcing their latest addition to their squad of Limpopo-born Thabiso Kutumela, it just adds more headaches to the opposition. Gloating about Kutumela's prowess, the

Sundowns statement said: "Kutumela's high work rate, assists and goals culminated in him earning his Bafana Bafana call up for the AFCON qualifiers.

"With preparations for the new season in full swing, Mamelodi Sundowns are delighted to announce the latest addition to the squad." The 28-year-old striker joins KaboYellow after scoring 12 goals in 26 league starts with Maritzburg United FC this past season. Sundowns have also signed Grant Kekana from SuperSport United.

Cape Town City has not been left out of the transfer market. The club has announced the signing of Khanyiso Mayo, with the young Mayo penning a five-year contract with the Citizens.

The 22-year-old forward leaves the KwaZulu-Natal GladAfrica Championship side Richards Bay FC, and he joins five other new signees at the Cape based club. The others are goalkeeper Darren Keet, midfielder Katlego Mokhuoane, defend-

er Patrick Fisher as well as DRC national Nathan Idumba, who comes in as a defender.

Having finished third on the 2020/2021 PSL standings Orlando Pirates look set to make amends with the signing of centre-back Kwanda Mngonyama, right-back Bandile Shandu, midfielder Goodman Mosele and winger Monnapule Saleng.

Concerns have also been raised at Pirates lack of firing power, which saw the team netting 33 goals in the league last season, as compared to Sundowns' 49. The rumour mill is on overdrive that the Buccaneers are coaxing SuperSport striker Bradley Grobler to join the Amabhakabhaka.

Word is also out that Pirates desperately need the services of Young Player of the Season 2021, the enterprising Evidence Makgopa from Baroka FC. At 21, Makgopa has a bright future ahead.

Having snapped Swallows FC defender Njabulo Zungu, Kaiser Chiefs are said to be on the

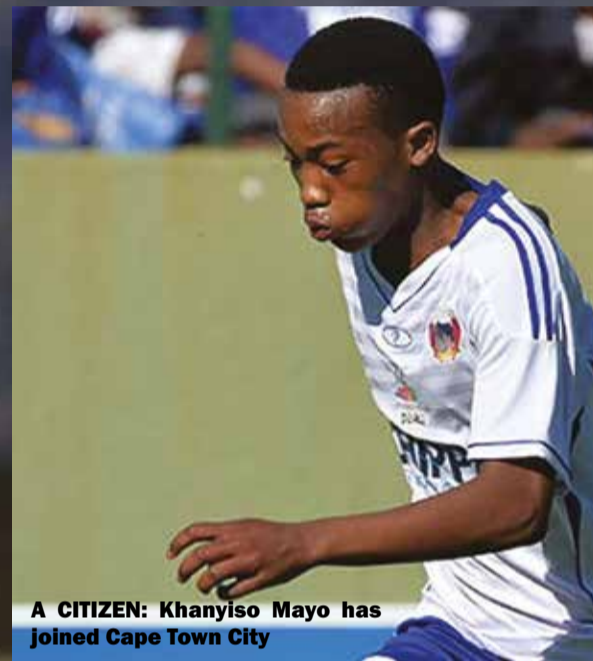
hunt for midfielder Siphon Mbule from SuperSport United. Reports suggest even Sundowns are keen on the player, though it was Mbule's agent Mike Makaab who was quoted as saying the Amakhosi want Mbule in their ensemble.

Moving abroad it is not clear whether Percy Tau will continue at English side Brighton-Hove. Reports say Belgian side Antwerp is considering bringing back the South African talisman to their country.

But what will excite South African more is the likely return of Keegan Dolly to the PSL or even joining Pitso Mosimane at Al Ahly, the Egyptian killer giants.

Swallows FC have also unveiled former Sundowns captain Hlompho Kekana as a new Bird.

Whichever way you want to look at it, it's going to be a helluva 2021/2022 DStv Premiership season. We can't wait for the games to begin come October.



A CITIZEN: Khanyiso Mayo has joined Cape Town City



TO ORLANDO?: Bradley Grobler may move to Pirates

DOGGED: Thabiso Kutumela now a Sundowner