



**STAGE SET
FOR
'GHOST'
DERBY
BACK PAGE**



**DEATH PARTS
SA'S POWER
COUPLE
PAGE 3**



**SCHOENMAKER
CLEANS OFF
1st GOLD FOR SA
PAGE 15**

Friday 30 July 2021



www.weeklysamirror.news

WEEKLY SA

MIRROR

Insight to connect the dots...

#PHOENIX MASSACRE



NEVER AGAIN!

SEE PAGE 2 & 3

PUBLIC OUTRAGE OVER PHOENIX MASSACRE TRIGGERS DURBAN CITY MARCH



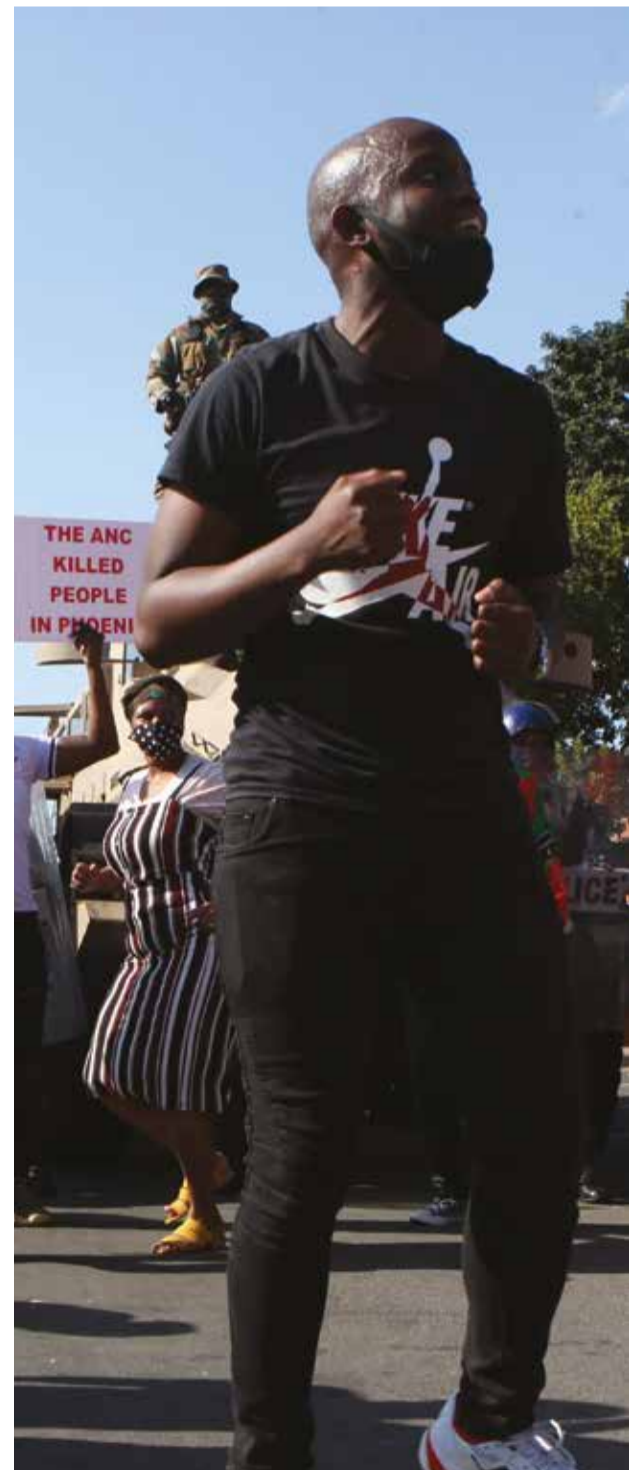
SOLIDARITY: A group of pastors aligned to God's Church Must Rise led by Archbishop Bheki Ngcobo (purple shirt), and protesting against controversial amendments to the Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act, yesterday joined up with protestors calling for justice for 38 Phoenix massacre victims to express common outrage over the vigilante killings. The march ended with the delivery of a petition to the mayor Mxolisi Kaunda's office in the coastal city



GRIEVANCE: Durban mayoral aide Reggie Cele receives a petition from marchers who were demonstrating against the killing of blacks by Indian vigilantes during the recent protests in support of the demand for former president Jacob Zuma to be released from prison.



FURY: The recent Phoenix massacre yesterday had a sequel in the Verulam Magistrate's Court, where 12 suspects appeared briefly in connection with a variety of charges - including murder, attempted murder, possession of unlicensed weapon and ammunition. The incident followed the pro-president Jacob Zuma protests in Gauteng and KwaZulu a fortnight ago. Dozens of people from different political organisations kept vigil outside the court in demand for justice for the 38 black victims of the vigilante killings. See Page 3



12 SUSPECTS IN COURT OVER PHOENIX PUBLIC VIOLENCE CHARGES

JUSTICE: ANC and EFF call for justice for the victims' families



Report by
Pearl Rantsekeng
in Durban



Photos by
Mohau
Mofokeng

By Pearl Rantsekeng

SCORES of people chanted freedom songs outside the Verulam Magistrates Court today, where 12 suspects appeared in connection with various charges, including murder, attempted murder and malicious damage to property, some linked to the recent Phoenix massacre.

The 12 are facing separate charges varying from murder to attempted murder, destruction of property as well as possession of unlicensed firearms and ammunition.

They were arrested during separate raids in connection with the bloody killing of black men and women allegedly by people of Indian descent.

The violent acts occurred during the "Release Zuma Campaign", which eventually turned ugly and resulted in the massive destruction of business properties and looting of shops in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng. More than 300 people were killed during the looting spree.

At the same time, a group of Indian vigilantes had allegedly set up roadblocks in Phoenix where black men and women were pulled out of their cars and murdered and others severely beaten.

Ten of the suspects who appeared in court today were Indians and two were Africans.

The two were remanded in custody at Westville Prison while the 10 Indian suspects were remanded in custody at the Durban Central Police station. One of the accused, Vikash Sewran, was granted bail of R5000. The State did not oppose his application for bail as he was facing a Schedule One offence, which is a lesser charge.

Thando Ndlovu and Lindokuhle Ndaba, the two Africans, are facing Schedule Five offences.

Security was tight inside the small courtroom

where police kept a close watch at spectators who included members of the media and political organisations.

Outside court the atmosphere was highly charged with members of different organisations, including the ANC and the EFF singing struggle songs. Although both parties were united in calling for justice for the victims' families and chanted slogans including "Black Lives Matter," the two parties refused to stand together in one group.

On Thursday, a crowd of about 200 people gathered outside the Durban City Hall where they wanted to deliver a memorandum to the eThekwinini Mayor, Mxolisi Kaunda.

Kaunda was not available to accept the memorandum which was received by Reggie Cele from his office.

Slogans that included "Phansi ngama Ndiya ase Phoenix abulala abantu, Phansi" as well as "Qina Mtomnyama, qina" were echoed throughout the march.

The marchers had come together under the banner of The Justice for the Phoenix Massacre Victims Movement. The movement was formed after the brutal killings in Phoenix.

The organisers of the march had joined a pre-planned march of pastors under the auspices of God's Church Must Rise led by Archbishop Bheki Ngcobo.

Ngcobo said the ministers of religion were marching against the Amendment Bill (Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act) perceived as extending the scope of the Act to such an extent that it amounted to state-backed imposition of ideological values not seen since the apartheid era.



Police, backed by troops, monitor crowds outside the Verulam Magistrate's Court, where 12 suspects appeared today in connection with the killings related to the Phoenix massacre, which claimed 38 black lives. INSET: One of the suspects peers through the window of a police van transporting him to court.

"This Act will definitely lead to religious persecution," said Ngcobo.

One of the organisers of The Justice for the Phoenix Massacre Victims Movement, Moeketsi Lebjawa said black people were tired of always being victims.

Speakers during the march echoed the same message that the ANC government had let them down and had sold them out.

"The Minister of Police, Bheki Cele's first stop after the violent incident was with our killers. He went straight to the Indians. You know why, because they control the economy of this province. These Indians don't respect us because they own and control our economy," said Mlungisi Ngcobo.

In her last update to the media, Acting Minister in the Presidency Khumbudzo Ntshavheni reported that 20 people had been arrested in con-

nection with the murders in Phoenix.

According to Ntshavheni the death toll figures in KZN following the looting and destruction of properties, stood at 251 while in Gauteng the figure was at 79.

Giving a breakdown of the murders recorded in KZN, she said one was in Amajuba, three in Harry Gwala, three in Umzinyathi, three in Umkhanyakude, six in King Cetshwayo, eight in iLembe, nine in Ugu, 20 in Umgungundlovu and 110 in eThekwinini. There were also 87 inquest dockets.

It was still unclear how many people were actually killed in Phoenix. Police are continuing with their investigations.

On Thursday, speaking in a TV interview, KZN premier Sihle Zikalala said 38 people were killed in Phoenix, 13 in Chatsworth and eight in Northdale in Pietermaritzburg.

ADIOS SHONA FERGUSON; TV STAR SUCCUMBS TO COVID

FALLEN: Shock as popular TV actor and director succumbs to Covid-19 complications

By Gugu Sibiyi

Actor and director Shona Aaron Ferguson passed away from Covid-related complications at Parklane Hospital in Johannesburg yesterday.

A family statement said the Botswana-born Ferguson reiterated that his death was related to Covid complications, not from a heart operation as reported earlier in the media. The family has requested privacy while they mourn his passing.

The soap heartthrob came into acting later in his life after marrying actor businesswoman, Connie, with whom they owned production company Ferguson Films.

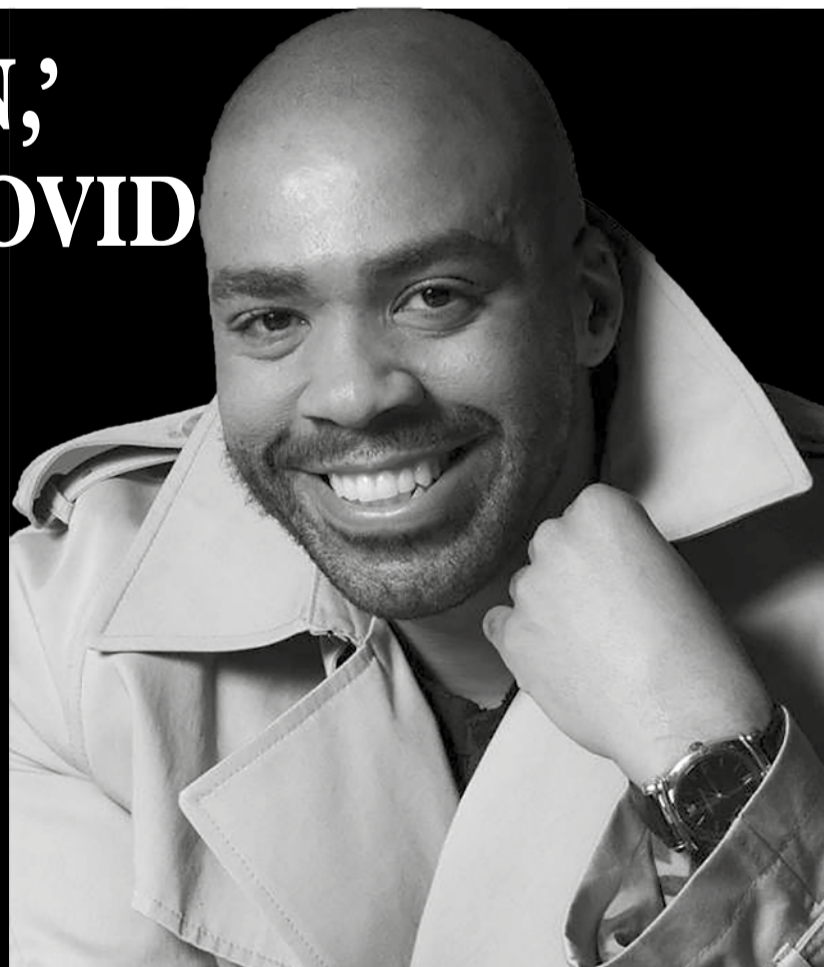
A talented actor, Ferguson came into acting late in his life, and proved a natural actor with a knack to ease into his roles with effortless panache.

His passing has left legions of adoring female fans, who couldn't get enough of the dream boat, heart-broken.

Some of the roles where he left a lasting impression were in Scandal, Generations, Isidingo, Muvhango, The Wild, Kings of Joburg, The Queen and Rockville. He was also cast in the highly commended film, Mrs Mandela. What was fascinating was the chemistry between the couple, both on and off the camera.

After proving their mettle, Ferguson and the love of his life founded their company Ferguson Films and produced a number of notable productions that left an indelible impression in the television and film industry.

The amiable actor who came to South Africa, saw opportunities and cashed, making a success of his life in a relatively short time. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.



DAD SUES SCHOOL AFTER SON'S EXPULSION

INJUSTICE: The boy apparently suffered trauma after being expelled for failing to complete school's homework...

By Frank Maponya

A Limpopo school which expelled a learner for allegedly failing to complete his homework is being sued by a parent. Polokwane's Northern Academy Secondary School is facing a lawsuit from Solly Mahlo, the father a grade 12 pupil, who is reported to have suffered trauma after the expulsion. The boy spent four months at home, as a result.

The school is among the many private institutions falling under Curro. Mahlo took the matter to the Polokwane High Court, which ruled in favour of his son and ordered his reinstatement though it was late in the academic year.

Mahlo snr is now suing the school for causing trauma to his son. His lawyer, Hans Mamabolo, had argued that the boy was heavily stressed as a result of the school's workload, hence he had failed to complete his English and Geography homework.

Mamabolo's contention was that the offences were minor and did not warrant expulsion. The boy was allegedly given voluminous work together with other learners after their return to school from the lengthy absence caused by the Covid-19 lockdown last year.

The boy's father said other learners who had also failed to complete their homework, but were not punished. Mahlo said the decision to expel his son from school was racially motivated.

"I was taken by surprise to discover the school's head of student affairs, Johann Oosthuizen, had recommended expulsion for my son," said Mahlo.

He said the four months that his son had stayed at home resulted in him becoming suicidal. But after winning the case, the boy was



ANGRY: Solly Mahlo wants justice for his son

reinstated even though it was already late. He subsequently failed his exams.

In a judgment delivered on November 4 2020, the court ruled that the expulsion was unfair and further ordered the school to reinstate the boy "with immediate effect." It also ordered the school to pay for the costs.

"It is clear that the punishment meted out amounts to humiliation and victimisation in front of the approximately 2 000 learners at the school," read the judgment in part. Mahlo has vowed to fight tooth and nail to ensure that the school paid for its sins. "I cannot sit and fold my arms when the school has dis-

played racist tendencies. I want it to pay," he said, further vowing to go as far as the Constitutional Court to ensure justice prevailed.

The father said he had received a report from the specialist social work psychologist and was awaiting another from the education specialist psychologist with whom his son had been consulting during the ordeal.

Approached for comment, Oosthuizen confirmed knowledge of the matter but referred further inquiries to the school's management, Curro. Several attempts to contact Curro were fruitless and an email sent to them had not been responded to.

FAMILY ALLOWS SHANGE'S BURIAL AFTER DRAMA

RIFT: Tussle between singer's live-in lover and ex-wife delayed proceedings



By Gugu Sibiyi

After a lengthy delay, singer Pat Shange was finally laid to rest at West Park Cemetery in Johannesburg on Wednesday. The delay emanated from a family feud over who was eligible to bury him, his girlfriend Nozuko Phaka or daughter Ayanda after all.

Another bone of contention had been where the singer was going to be buried, from Soweto's Protea North township or his hometown of Sweetwater in Pietermaritzburg, in accordance with his wishes.

The singer who was supposed to be buried last Thursday, but proceedings were delayed because of family rift, was finally laid to rest that this week. All his distraught daughter Ayanda could say prior to the burial, "We all wish that he should have a dignified send off. If only we could be united in purpose."

Preparations for the singer's burial were marred by a family feud which intensified when his girlfriend allegedly demanded the deceased's ID. Shange and Patricia, his wife of 33 years, were divorced.

"She (Phaka) barred my mom (Patricia) and I from entering my home," Ayanda said. "She then removed my father's body from the undertaker I'd already chosen, to her service provider."

"I was trying to field calls, enquiring about conflicting messages when I learned that she'd already gone to SAMRO (an organisation that pays artists' royalties) to claim funds. We believe the money was frozen when she failed to prove that my dad had paid lobola for her," Ayanda said.

With sadness dripping off her voice, Patricia added her own voice of exasperation over the brouhaha: "I'm so disappointed at the manner in which things were handled since Pat's death. Ayanda tried to carry out her father's wishes but was frustrated every step of the way. As a result, her father's funeral did not befit his stature. His legacy has been tarnished. He was buried like a pauper. Worse still, his wishes to be buried at home alongside his ancestors were undermined. My daughter is traumatised from all the drama. We all are. I pray that Pat rests in peace. In time we will put this nightmare behind us."

In response, Shepherd Shange, Pat's older brother, told Weekly SA Mirror that Ayanda was a child and therefore couldn't be tasked with a huge responsibility like that.

"I'm here to bury my brother, that's why I took over the reins. Patricia and Pat are divorced, so this had nothing to do with her. My brother has been buried and that's what I wanted," he said emphatically, avoiding the issue of the row between girlfriend and traditional wife.

Asked for comment, Nozuko Phaka denied chasing Pat's ex-wife and child out of the home she shared with the late singer. "I would never do that. I don't want to say much, except that I was waiting for Shepherd to arrange the funeral. That's what baba wanted. Delaying the funeral was stressful."

She was adamant that since they had buried Shange together, the feud would be over. As for claiming funds from SAMRO, she said this was something they were working on as a family.

About what would happen to Pat's house, she said she had not thought that far about what she was going to do with the matter.



SHOPRITE REOPENS JABULANI MALL SHOP

WELCOME: Shoppers express relief after the inconvenience

By Vusi Xaba

Shoprite at Soweto's Jabulani Mall opened its doors yesterday to a trickle of shoppers following its temporary closure in the wake of the spate of violent looting and destruction that gripped KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng three weeks ago. The economy took a hard knock from the violent protests organised in demand of former president Jacob Zuma's release from prison.

This resulted in trucks being set alight along the N2 and N3 highways between KZN and Gauteng. Shops, warehouses, bottle stores and factories were looted, some torched. The violence claimed more than 330 lives. Excited customers from the townships surrounding areas welcomed the move that was much seamless than they had expected.

Being the first day of shopping at the mall since July 12, when the mall was invaded by vandals and looters, there were expectations of long queues but it was a quieter day at the tills. Shoppers said they had been forced to travel far to buy their groceries.

"I had to go to Kliptown just to buy groceries. It cost more because I had to pay for the taxi," said Mapula Mofokeng from Moletsane. Thembi Dladla of Jabulani, said: "We struggled to get something as basic as bread. When we got it, the price had escalated to double the normal price. The bread that one would buy for R15 was now selling for R30 from a few spaza shops that operated. They (spaza shops) also took time to open after they had closed operations following the looting".

Sihle Zondi said he had expected long queues but was surprised that his shopping was easy and took a little time to shop.

"There was only one person in the queue when I went to pay in the till. I had expected long queues since people had been struggling to get groceries as the mall has been closed. I hope the people who were involved in the looting have realised the difficulty they have put us in," Zondi said.

When Weekly SA Mirror visited Jabulani Mall, there was a heavy private security guard presence. Repairs were being done to other shops and all cordoned off. Out of the three entrances to the mall, only one was opened. Such giant retailers as Clicks Pharmacy, Game and Woolworths looked like they were far from ready, as they had nothing on the shop floor. There were only three taxis in the taxi rank with a few passengers.

According to the retail giant's newsletter dated July 18, Shoprite Group said out of 1 189 supermarkets trading as Shoprite, Usave, Checkers and Checkers Hyper, 119 were affected by the recent unrest, 69 were Shoprite and 44 were Usave and 54 out of their 537 LiquorShop outlets were impacted by looting and fire.

"The Group's Freshmark (fresh produce) distribution centre (DC) in Durban was looted however its operational capacity has been fully restored since Sunday, 18th July; - Our KwaZulu-Natal dry goods DC resumed deliveries to our stores in the province from Thursday last week; - The Gauteng based DC has operated seamlessly throughout to the extent that it delivered goods to our KwaZulu-Natal operations from as early as Thursday last week in support of our stores re-opening in a phased approach throughout the province" the newsletter reads.

Jabulani Mall management had not responded to our inquiries by the time of going to print.

Consumer Eye

060 936 2673



AWARD-WINNING
CONSUMER EDITOR LOOKS
INTO YOUR COMPLAINTS

ABSOLUTE HORROR FOR CAR BUYER AS DEMO FALLS APART

NIGHTMARE: Newly purchased lemon drives owner's blood pressure to critical highs

By Thuli Zungu

When buying a demo car Tebogo Shingange of Daspoor in Pretoria North never thought that she would only drive it for a few hours and end up in hospital because of the high blood pressure it had now caused her.

She was hospitalised last Thursday after the dealer, CHM Volvo Cars in Pretoria told her they will not replace her faulty car, she said.

Shingange, 49, would have bought a brand new if she could afford but the dealer cajoled her to buy Demo car, she said, "When inquiring I was told they did not have one in stock, but a demo vehicle which is as good as new," she said

She was told about the features it had which enticed her to buying it, said a mother of two. Shingange said she took precautionary measures to ensure that she was not buying a dud.

"I test drove the car to test the brakes and handle of it and was happy with it and then signed the contract," she said.

Shingange said buying a Demo car meant a smooth sailing, free of mechanical difficulties, undisclosed damage or expired warranties and trouble finding replacement parts. She said she did not think there was a need to get a Dekra report as the car was a demo and chances of it being faulty or the likelihood of it being previously involved in an accident were zero.

"Contrary to my expectation I'm now told that I should have expected that it would not be 100% perfect," she said.

She said its wheels are not properly aligned as

its steering wheel tilts to the left when driving it.

"When collecting it, the car was dirty on the outside and had dust on the inside, its engine was muddy. I immediately brought this to the attention of the dealer who was not bothered," she said.

A day later when she tried to start it, she noticed an unusual funny noise coming from the engine, the noise she did not detect when collecting it, she said. Though the tension belt and a faulty alternator were replaced she still experiences the same problem, she said.

She is not sure whether the replacements were done since she was not given the job card after the alleged replacements, she said.

"Given the mileage on the car, and expectations are that there should be no stripping of parts at this stage," she said.

She said she has a right to a replacement as she does not want to be spending a million rands on a faulty vehicle, she said.

She said Wesbank, the financier, has not helped her after notifying them about her problem.

Richard Erasmus the principal dealer at Volvo said they have the right to repair the remedy and not replace the defective vehicle. "No vehicle is sold stating your vehicle will be 100% perfect from the first km driven. Unfortunately, mechanical parts could give problems as this one made a noise. No matter how old or new a vehicle is, that is why every vehicle from brand new will have a Mechanical Warranty," he said.

Erasmus said Shingange can bring the car so he could re-test it or trade the car for a new one.



SECTION 56 HOW SECTION 56 PROTECTS CAR BUYERS

Section 56 of the Consumer Protection Act applies to a consumer who buys a second-hand car from a dealer.

The CPA provides that all goods purchased must comply with the following requirements:

- They must be safe, of good quality, in good working order and free from any defects;
- They must be reasonably suitable for the purpose for which they are generally intended; and
- and will be usable and durable for a reasonable period of time, having regard to the use they would normally be put to.

It further states that should the car not meet these requirements, a consumer has the right to return it (within six months after the purchase) and can insist to:

- Have the car repaired at his own cost
- Have the car replaced; or
- Obtain a full refund of the purchase price if the goods do not comply with section 55.

If a consumer is made aware of any defects and still purchased the car, the CPA provisions do not apply.

If the dealer does not comply the consumer can:

- refer the matter to the Motor Industry Ombudsman of South Africa and the Consumer Goods and Services Ombud
- refer the matter to the National Consumer Tribunal directly;
- referring the matter to the consumer court within the jurisdiction;
- alternative dispute resolution; and
- filing a complaint with the National Consumer Commission.

Once all these options have been exhausted, a consumer can approach a relevant court of law with jurisdiction over the matter.

Sources: Consumer Protection Act

By Thuli Zungu

COVID-19 pandemic and lock-down regulations are now a scapegoat for service providers who do not want to honour the consumers claims. Without the intervention of the Short-Term Insurance Ombuds (OSTI) Themba Ndlovu* and Nthabiseng Mofokeng* would have been left on the lurch.

Edite Teixeira-Mckinon, of the OSTI shared two examples in which insurance companies were hiding behind the lock-lockdown regulations instead of settling claims. Teixeira said OSTI applies customer fairness principles to ensure fair and equitable solutions between Insurer's and their clients She said Ndlovu's vehicle was involved in an accident during level 4 lockdown when people had to remain home and allowed to travel under certain circumstances. At this stage, Ndlovu was in the process of relocating from one residence to another and travelling between these residences when he had an accident, she said.

Ndlovu later lodged a motor vehicle claim to the insurer which was later rejected on the grounds that he contravened the lockdown regulations issued in terms of the Disaster Management Act, she said.

She said the insurer could not provide the relevant policy provision that was relied on to justify the rejection of Ndlovu's claim. The insurer relied

COVID REGULATIONS A NEW SCAPEGOAT TO AVOID CLAIMS

INTEGRITY: Principle of fairness

imperative to ensure fair and equitable

solutions between Insurers and their clients...

on the provision which states that if Ndlovu or the person driving his car does not have a valid driver's licence, or if he broke the law, then the claim will be repudiated, she said. Teixeira-Mckinon said the insurer argued that Ndlovu was not performing an essential service and the relaxation on the restriction did not apply to his movement between his households.

The insurer contended that Ndlovu had a work permit to travel between his residence and place of work only and was therefore in contravention

of the regulations, she said. It further, said that if Ndlovu had adhered to the regulations, he would not have had an accident as he would not have been travelling on that route and as a result increased the insurer's risk, she said.

Teixeira-Mckinon said the OSTI the insurer did not prove that the accident was caused by the insured breaking the law. From an equity perspective OSTI found that there was no causal link between the breach of law and the accident and recommended that the insurer settle Ndlovu's claim.

Nthabiseng Mofokeng's* claim was rejected on the grounds that she did not update her residential address when she relocated to Brakpan, Gauteng during the lock-down, Teixeira-Mckinon said.

Mofokeng had temporarily visited her family and had no choice but to remain there due to the COVID-19 lockdown when her car was stolen. Dissatisfied with the rejection of the claim, and after she approached the insurer's internal dispute officer the initial decision was overturned, said Teixeira-Mckinon.

Mofokeng was told that her claim would be settled on a proportional basis by deducting the percentage of the premium that would have been paid to the insurer if the client had updated the address on the policy, she said. The deduction amounted to 29.12% from her claim because she was in Brakpan and not Bloemfontein for two months.

The insurer would therefore only pay 70.88% of the claim, stating that it only received 70.88% of the correct premium, she clarified. Mofokeng was still not happy with this decision as she was compelled to remain in Brakpan due to the pandemic lockdown, said Teixeira-Mckinon.

OSTI considered this fact when making its decision and requested the insurer to settle the claim by deducting the actual difference in the premium for the month that the vehicle was at the new risk address. Mofokeng is also sorted.

IKUSASA CAREER GUIDE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

SOWETO BIKE REPAIRER WISHES TO EMPOWER OTHERS

RESILIENT: Started company with a spanner, grinder and a dream

By Bongwe Mkhwanazi

He started his motorcycle fixing business with one spanner and later got a drill grinder from a generous friend, but today he is the one who is returning the favour by training others, especially youngsters, the tricks of the trade.

But starting your own business is never easy, says 43 year old Charles Jansen of Zola North, Soweto, who has been repairing motorbikes since 2010, and has trained five people, including his younger brother and a nephew. Jansen had no knowledge of working on electrical tools until he was hired by a local mechanic who specialised in fixing lawnmowers in 1993. The same man later advised Jansen to start his own business after he had also welcomed clients who were bringing motorcycles for repairs. "When I started my own business in 2010, I had one spanner, and I later got a drill grinder from a generous friend who knew how good I was at what I was doing," Jansen said.

Jansen may have started Charles and Sons Machinery Repairs with his last salary and no ample start-up tools, but has serviced and fixed motorbikes for more than 1 000 clients so far, and is also specialising in repairs to generators and lawnmowers, all thanks to his previous employer who had given him employment and had also encouraged him to start his own business all those years ago. He has trained five people which includes his nephew and his youngest brother.

Today, Charles and Sons Machinery Repairs is registered with the Companies and Intellectual Property Registration Office, Cipro. Jansen charges clients R450 for servicing the motorbikes, excluding parts, which are charged separately, and according to the value of the replaced parts. He also offers three month-long warranties for the serviced motorbikes.

"I have been lucky that I have never had a comeback for all the services I have rendered to my clients; and, for that reason, most of them have been referring clients from as far as Pretoria and Midrand," Jansen said, proudly. Jansen said he did not have any competitors all through the years, but he now has one in his neighbourhood, and he said that this was attributable to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, as the competitor had relocated moved from the Johannesburg city centre, recently. Jansen's aspiration is to infiltrate the local schools to offer practical training in mechanical repairs to electrical tools and small self-propelled vehicles, especially motorcycles. "I have identified two schools," said Jansen. "One of these institutions, Fontana High School, has half of a car engine and a compressor, both of which they should be using to train their learners, but the machines are just lying there, unused and collecting dust."

He is also lamenting the sad fact that the nearby Mezodo Vocational Skills Centre is offering theoretical tutorials, but their students do not get any practical training; and, given an opportunity, I



DRIVEN: Mechanic Charles Jansen provides a first-class service Photo: Mohau Mofokeng

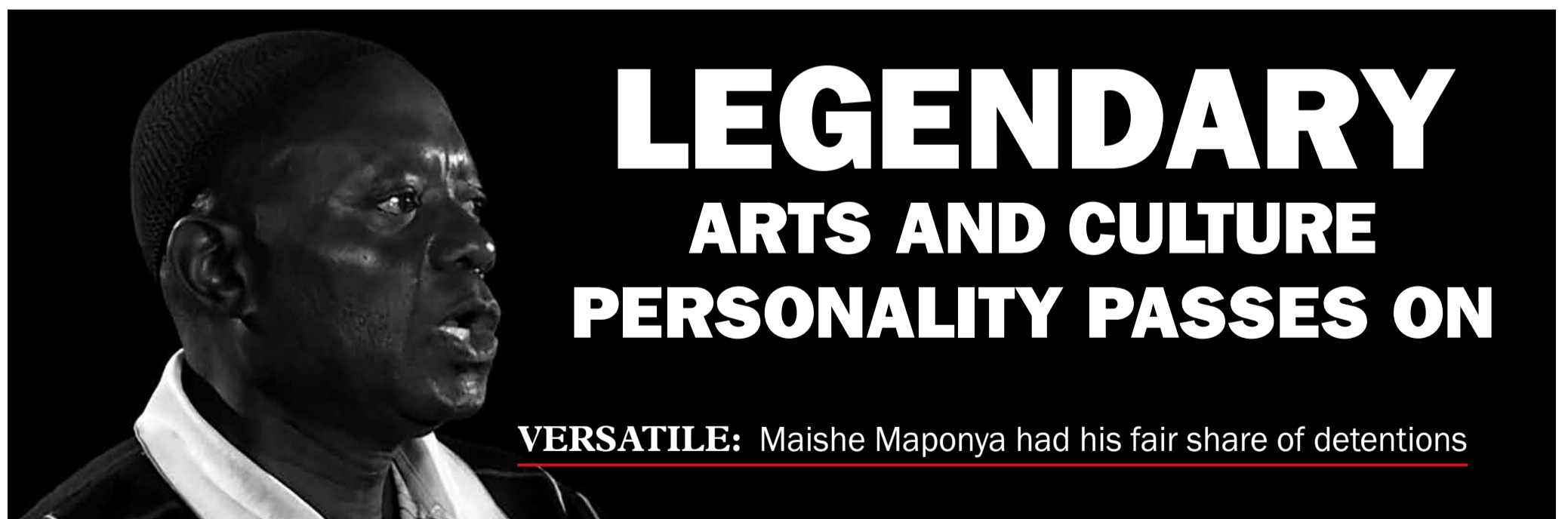
could offer those practical lessons to the learners," said Jansen, who has trained five people which includes his youngest brother and a nephew, and has also taught several people how to ride motorcycles. These include his son and daughter, who take regular rides at a nearby park.

Though he does not own a motor bike, Jansen is encouraging motorcycle enthusiasts to open their own motorcycle repair shops and motorbike clubs, adding that motorcycle mechanics are in high demand, these days, as a high number of people are down-grading from cars to motorbikes, and would always require the services of mechanics specialising in motorcycle repairs.

"When you combine interest in motorcycles with your entrepreneurial spirit, you can run a successful repair business," said Jansen, who said he was only lacking a spacious workshop to house his parts inventory, and a small office from which he could conduct his administrative affairs, as he cur-

rently works from his garage. Charles and Sons Machinery Repairs has expanded by word of mouth. A local community radio station has also given him some direly-needed mileage, he said. "I am yet to advertise my business on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook," said Jansen, who has previously relied on WhatsApp to attract new customers. His family business takes care of nine stomachs and pays the salaries of his three employees, he said. "Basically, I live from hand to mouth, as R6 000 a month is nothing to feed nine stomachs," Jansen said.

Jansen said he has been approached by approximately 20 youngsters who want to learn and gain on the job experience, but he cannot help these eager youngsters without paying them a stipend based on the meagre funds he generates presently. "You need to take them off the streets, keep them motivated, and they must always look forward to coming to work, instead of working for nothing – mahala," Jansen said.



LEGENDARY ARTS AND CULTURE PERSONALITY PASSES ON

VERSATILE: Maishe Maponya had his fair share of detentions

By Victor Mecoamere

Playwright, actor, director, and poet, Maishe Maponya, who was a respected arts and culture academic, died this week after an illness.

Maponya, who was a senior drama lecturer at Wits University, will be best remembered as having been a fierce Black Consciousness Movement adherent whose ideological leanings showed prominently in his plays and poetry recitals. He was born on 4 September 1951 in Alexandra, a sprawling yet depressed black residential area that is, ironically, a part of obscenely-affluent and predominately-

white suburb of Sandton.

When he was aged 11, Maponya's family was among countless other oppressed black households that were forcibly transplanted to Diepkloof in Soweto in 1962. He was a supervisor at assurance company, Liberty Life while he also wrote, directed and acted in drama, poetry and music productions for the Diepkloof-based Bahumutsi Drama Group. He also led the Allah Poets for some time.

In the eighties, Maponya's name was in the league of township theatre luminaries who included Gibson Kente, Paul Rapetsoa, Peter Ngwenya, John Moalusi Ledwaba, Sam Mhangwani, Boikie

Mohlamme and fellow Black Consciousness advocate, Matsemela Manaka.

Maponya's light shone even brightest after the release of African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela in 1991, when the National Party had relaxed the stranglehold that had constricted the lives of an innumerable activists.

Ever the unflagging arts and culture practitioner, Maponya loved to write, direct and perform in his own plays. One of these, Gangsters, which had featured the late George Lamola, drew a lot of hostile attention from the divisive authorities, who – short of banning the play – had restricted the two-

hander to small theatres.

He also had his fair share of harassments, including being stalked and several stints in detention as a political prisoner. His versatility was legendary. For an example, Maponya played leadership roles in arts and culture, politics, academia, unionism and community development. Maponya was one of the leaders of the Performance and Allied Workers Equity. In the early 2000s, Maponya worked as an executive officer for the Johannesburg Southern Metropolitan Council's Library, Arts and Culture department.

GUITARIST EXTRAORDINAIRE MATSHIZA STRUMS LAST CHORD

NIMBLE FINGERS: Been ill for some time going in and out of hospital



Lawrence Matshiza strummed his guitar straight into music lovers' hearts

By Gugu Sibiyi

One of the country's most prolific guitarist Lawrence Matshiza (60), passed away at the Livingstone hospital in Port Elizabeth last week.

Although he went about his daily activities and music as normal as possible, the nimble-fingered guitarist had been sick for a long time. The Gqeberha-born muso was passionate about enriching whatever project that crossed his path.

Publicist guru and friend from Mahambhlala Communications, Thembi Mahambhlala who's Lawrence's homie, says she's shattered. "We grew up together in showbiz, him as a guitarist while I'm a publicist. We traveled and had so many wonderful experiences together all over the world. His last show in December was in my event at the Ebubeleni music festival in Gqeberha. We even spoke about how we'd done our bit in this business here in Joburg.

"We were ready to go back home to plough back to our community. Lawrence left in 2013 and really lived up to his intentions. He was making headway grooming future musicians.

"I remember at my last event how sick he was. He played as beautifully as ever although he was sitting down. We were appreciative because we wanted that sound only he could deliver.

"He was a one of a kind genius with his unique touch. So much that even overseas acts who booked local bands, always insisted on having him on board. If ever there was a major loss, this is it" she says sobbing inconsolably.

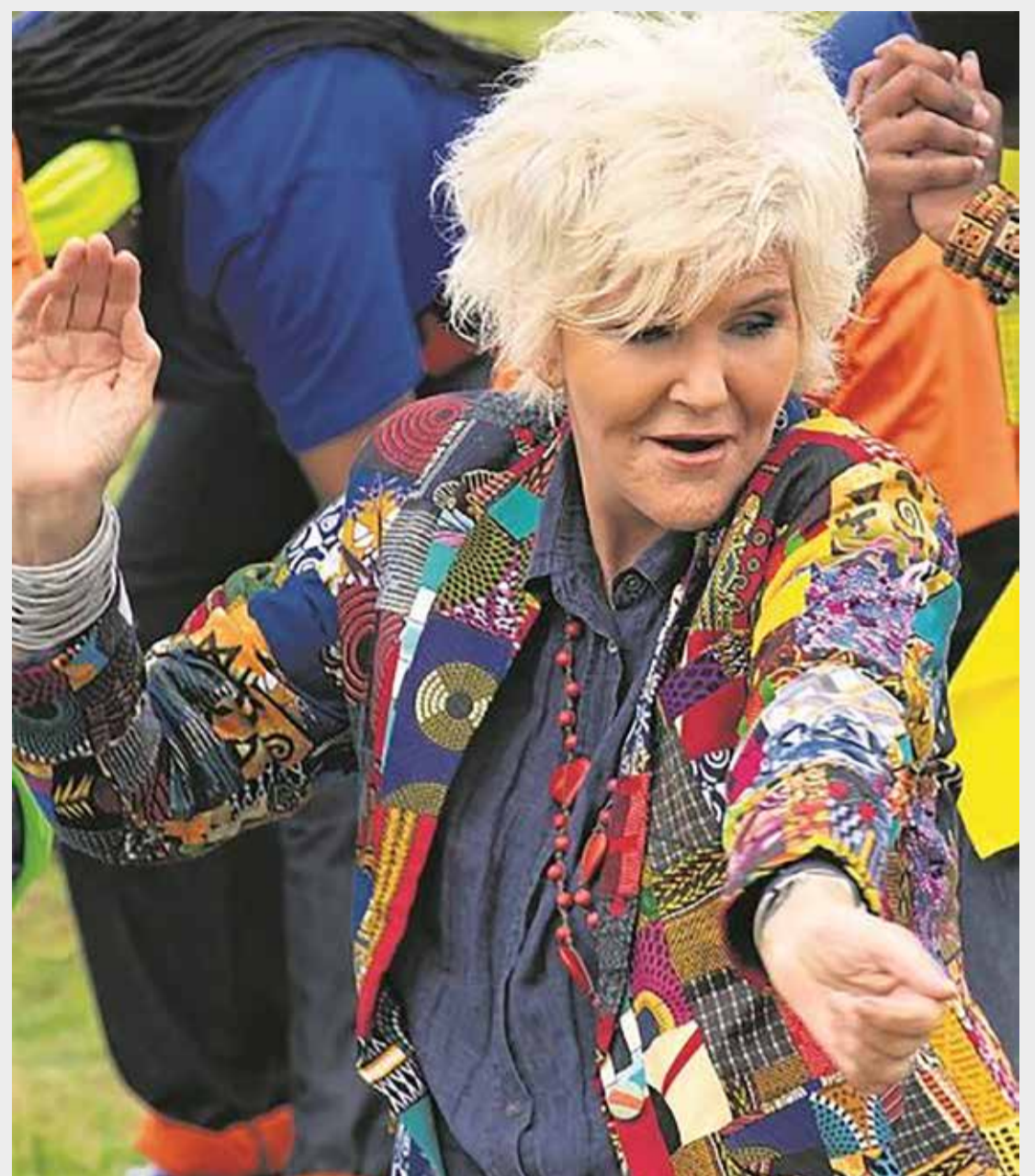
A background person who shied away from the spotlight. He always let his guitar speak for him. Among luminaries he strummed for were Gregory Porter, Miriam Makeba, Ray Parker jnr, Incognito, Hugh Masekela, Cindy Lauper, Moses Molelekoa, Sibongile Khumalo, Siphokazi, Letta Mbulu, McCoy Mrubata, Harry Belafonte, Siphokazi, John Legend, Peabo Bryson, Caiphas Semenya and toured with Keiko Matsui in the Netherlands.

Elder brother Themba recalls fondly how they called each other Tshista. He was a loving, caring person who never glossed over anything wrong.

"I was his greatest fan. When the music bug bit him, I was already collecting jazz albums he intensely listened to. He joined a local band called the Afro Teens. His break came when Mncedisi Mkhize who was in Gibson Kente's cast introduced him to the legend. A Kente on tour recruited him as a stand-in guitarist" he says about a brother who was also a guest music lecturer at Damelin in Gqeberha.

"Tshista didn't stay with Kente. Joburg was brimming with opportunities, he hooked up with Spirits Rejoice. My brother was more about writing, producing and directing music. He did that successfully on a lot of award-winning offerings. I will miss the times when we'd all be hanging out at home. We'd be in stitches from the jokes he cracked against the backdrop of beautiful music.

Lawrence is survived by his wife, one boy and two girls, a brother and a sister and two grandchildren. He will be buried on Saturday, in Port Elizabeth.



PJ THANDEKA POWERS WILL ALWAYS BE THE PEOPLE'S DARLING

A SAMA AT LAST FOR PJ POWERS!

THANDEKA IN THE AREA: Broke musical barriers during apartheid times

By Gugu Sibiyi

PJ Powers who's kept legions of people dancing and singing along to her infectious tunes, will finally be conferred a Lifetime Achievement Award at the SAMA 27, tomorrow night.

Fondly named Thandeka, the blonder powerhouse says "It's about time! I've never received a SAMA and I was beginning to wonder why they've ignored all the work I've put out over the years. When people catch a glimpse of my awards collection, they always ask whether I'm still excited to add more. To which I respond, of course I still am!"

"Awards serve as a recognition and appreciation for your work and impact on those around you. I've got so many awards from all over Africa including Icon and Legends Awards. In the 40-years I've been in showbiz, it's only for two years that I haven't gotten awards.

A chirpy Thandeka says she's on cloud nine. "Since I started working with Mzansi Choir, I'm so excited about each and every moment of the experience. The enthusiasm with which the youngsters have dived into the collaboration, is encouraging.

"They are soaking everything they are learning like a sponge. It's incredible. I'm blown away by the respect they've shown me and what we're building. Imagine the calibre of artists they're going to become. I'm charged up" she says.

A singer who's observed how lack of collaboration across the art spectrum has buried talent by the way side. "Like in most countries I've travelled in, I'm passionate about youngsters working with seasoned artists, to the point of sharing the stage.

"Artists should go on for as long as they wish instead of being shoved into obscurity - until they pass away. Like now, Tshepo Tshola and Steve Kekana's music which is now getting airplay. After a month it'll be over" she says of two legends she's done duets with.

Fortunate to be showered with so much love locally, Thandeka is among 10 icons in the country whose life stories are being captured on documentaries by MNet. I feel privileged to be singled out for this honor. I'm ecstatic." A little birdie said other icons on the list include the late Jonas Gwangwa, Charlize Theron, Mark Shuttleworth.

"I'm so happy with the trajectory my career has taken. I've travelled the world thanks to my career alone. Depression and anxiety have plagued me for a while but medication takes care of that.

"After indulging on alcohol for years, I finally stopped. I'm happy to say I've been sober for the last 11-years" she reveals.

Giving a glimpse of where it all started. "My mother brought back from the USA a film of the late Miriam Makeba singing Pata Pata. It stirred something in me. There was something profound about Mama Africa's music. I threw caution to the wind and dropped You are so Good to Me.

"It launched me in a big way. In spite of apartheid my songs enjoyed cross-over appeal. The late Cansas City Mchunu and VVO Mkhize of the then radio Zulu, were exceptional in their support. My performance at Jabulani Amphitheatre, Soweto in 1983, opened the flood gates of love I've received from people across the townships all over the country" she says in disbelief.

"Soweto was an eye-opener. It ignited my curiosity about township life. I went on a shebeen tour and got to know people and that we are the same. The two communities and the unspoken rule that never shall the twain meet doesn't apply to me. I'm really enjoying my country and its people" she says reminiscing about her friends ekasi.

Thandeka's in the studio cooking hits. "I'm happy with what we're creating with Mzansi choir. Besides I'm looking forward to the next 20-years of my life" ends the Brand SA ambassador.

CDs COMPOSED/ PRODUCED

Victor Ntoni - Hheritage

Co-produced Ensemble with Ntoni

- Judith Sephuma - New Beginnings.
- Hugh Masekela - Hope.
- Moses Molelekoa - Genes & Spirits.
- Ringo Madlingozi - Sondelani & Vukani.

BANDS:

- Dondo.
- Spirits Rejoice.
- Hugh Masekela Band.

DIRECTED:

- Patti Austin Band.
- Mzansi Sings a Tribute to OR Tambo.
- 60 Piece Ensemble Band.

Comment

BLACK LIVES MATTER – VICTIMS DESERVE JUSTICE

BLACK life cannot be criminalised and dehumanised by people who take the law into their own hands – as happened recently when Indian vigilantes murdered nearly 59 people in three predominantly Indian residential areas in KwaZulu-Natal – targeted simply because they were of African descent.

Black people, like any other racial groups in the world, have a right to life, security and to be free from discrimination in line with the provisions of the International Human Rights Law. The senseless racist killing of black men and women and the severe assault of many others in Phoenix (38), Chatsworth (13) in Durban and Northdale (eight) in Pietermaritzburg must be condemned in the strongest possible terms. The death toll was announced last night by KwaZulu-Natal premier Sihle Zikalala during a TV interview. South Africa, as a democratic country, cannot tolerate racist thugs who masquerade as law-abiding citizens acting in the guise of protecting their neighbourhood and properties while mowing down innocent men and women.

Black people ought not – as so often happened randomly and with impunity during apartheid times – be subjected to killings, torture and inhumane treatment, again simply because of the colour of their skin. Black lives matter and are not cheap.

Needless to say, the public outrage over these racist killings is therefore justified, despite muted reaction in some quarters, veiled attempts at cover-up and the barbarism behind the Phoenix, Chatsworth and Northdale massacre being downplayed by some quarters – even a coterie of so-called human rights champions.

We shudder to think what the reaction would have been, if the victims were white people and/or from other races. Whatever alleged crimes some of the victims were suspected to have committed, still no one had the right to take the law unto their own hands. Nothing can erase the fact that those who committed these dastardly and murderous deeds were driven by racial hatred. Nogal, how do they explain the callous and coldblooded murder of women.

No ways! For their part, the law enforcement agencies have done well in apprehending the suspects, though progress towards making the arrests in Phoenix seemed to have moved into overdrive mode only when a special investigation team had been appointed. We pray that justice prevails in the end. For, closure must be accorded to the many grieving spouses who are widowed, children orphaned, families torn apart... and the nation further divided.

We do not condone the indiscriminate and wanton looting, for which hundreds of suspects already have to face the full wrath of the law. Indeed, it is just as deplorable that the scenario leading to the racist murders was actually started by the wanton and destruction of property earlier this month. But, alas, there is still no moral justification for the bloodbath unleashed on the unsuspecting nation that day, either. Finally, we call on law-abiding citizens to allow the wheel of justice to take its course while also urging black communities in the affected areas to stay calm and not to be provoked into needless acts of revenge. In the meantime, police must be allowed to complete their investigations without hindrance.

RELIEF PACKAGE LAUDED

THE R5,3 billion temporary relief package announced by government for businesses and workers adversely affected by the recent unrest in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng should be welcomed as this would bring some glimmer of hope for the affected parties.

Labour and Employment Minister Thulas Nxesi, said the Unemployment Insurance Fund's Covid 19 temporary relief was extended by this amount in line with the government's intervention plans announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa at the weekend.



STATE'S PLEDGE TO SAVE JOBS

RELIEF: The UIF has benefits to serve as intervention mechanism to 75 000 workers and companies affected by recent unrests...



PLEDGE: Labour Minister Thulas Nxesi

Since the onset of the pandemic in March 2020 the Fund has rendered relief against income loss to approximately 5,4 million workers with over R61,2 billion disbursed. A further extension until 15 March 2021 assisted up to 74,000 workers where over R703 million was paid. Under the latest adjusted level 4 lockdown the Fund has extended this relief further with an estimated budget of R5,3 billion for which applications have been opened.

Following the announcement by the President on Sunday evening about various government interventions aimed at assisting businesses and all workers affected by the recent unrests in the country, the Department of Employment and Labour is committed to assist workers who have been affected by the recent unrest in Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal.

According to our own assessment about 75 000 employees have been affected by the latest unrests in the two provinces and this may mean a temporary work stoppage or an outright retrenchment. The Unemployment Insurance Fund has a basket of benefits that can serve as intervention mechanism to the affected workers and companies as a result of the unrests.

It should be mentioned upfront that there is currently no benefit quite suitable for the current situation, and COVID-19 TERS cannot be applicable as it was established as an intervention for a disaster situation.

Therefore, the current benefits under the Unemployment Insurance Act are the only interventions available to cover the affected workers, however, in order to ensure that some of the basic tenets of the Act are not violated, the Department is going to draft a special directive dealing with the affected workers in the two provinces.

The spirit of the directive would be to ensure that workers who would normally not qualify for these benefits due to non-compliance with the Act are able to access the benefits.

However, I should emphasise that it will not be

a free for all, the criteria to determine who qualifies is going to be very stringent and payments will not be generous. While it is our desire to pay all affected workers; it should be borne in mind that finance is a limited resource.

Therefore, I have instructed the officials to gather data of businesses that have been affected, and also perform an analysis of those who will afford to carry their employee's salaries during this period. On the basis of this analysis we shall be able to indicate the benefit calculation that we will follow; whether it is a flat rate across the board, an Income Replacement Rate, or combination of the two – depending on the nature of the application.

All details pertaining to who qualifies, payment structure, the application process and the duration of the payment period will be outlined in the direction. We are mindful of the urgency of the matter, therefore we commit to expediting the process of drafting and approval of the directive. The UIF already has a system in place that will help fast track the payments.

Just as it is the case with the Covid TERS Benefit, we want the employer to play a key role in the application process. The details of the process will be outlined in the Direction, however, what is important is that the benefit will have to be paid directly into the account of the employee. This will make the benefit immediately available to assist the employee, and it will reduce the risk of possible fraud.

Businesses or companies in distress following the unrests may also apply for the normal Temporary Employer/Employee Relief Scheme (TERS). TERS is designed to assist companies who are temporarily in distress, but with a plan in place to turn the business around within a period of 6 to 12 months.

Applications for TERS are made via the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA), and an independent adjudication committee evaluates all proposals and makes a recommendation to the Director-General of the

Department of Employment and Labour. Upon approval by the DG, the UIF then processes the claim and monitor the implementation of the programme.

It is a reality that some of the businesses will not fully recover from the damage of the unrest, which will result in retrenchments. The UIF will ensure that it prioritises those retrenched employees in some of the Labour Activation Programmes that are designed to place retrenched workers in employment opportunities.

In the next few months, those factories and shops that were burnt down will be rebuilt. This is very good for our economy and prospects for employment. We commend those companies who have committed to rebuild their factories and warehouses. As most of you would know that we administer Construction Regulations which requires that a construction works permit to be issued to companies that want to undertake a building.

Often this process takes about thirty days. Our Inspection and Enforcement services will hasten to facilitate the issuing of construction work permits to construction companies to ensure the speedy rebuilding of damaged infrastructure.

The Compensation Fund continues to support those who have become sick in the line of duty and so far, just under R90-million has been disbursed for temporary total disablement, medical aid, permanent disablement, funeral costs as well as dependent benefits.

Regrettably, 92 fatalities have been recorded and a total of 26 073 claims have been submitted either directly to the Compensation Fund or the mutual funds that have been licensed by the Minister of Employment and Labour (Rand Mutual Assurance and Federated Employers). Our systems are robust and we are well-funded to take care of the claims that may still come.

We are also through our Inspection and Enforcement Unit ensuring that workplaces are as safe as possible and that the health of all workers is ensured to the extent possible. - Issued by: Department of Employment and Labour

060 936 2673

Info@weeklysamirror.news

PEARL RANTSEKENG Editor
MOLEFI MIKA Deputy Editor
THULI ZUNGU Associate Editor
GUGU SIBIYA Lifestyle Editor



By Rapiitse Montsho

TOMORROW July 31 2021 marks 40 years since the brutal assassination of Joe Nzingo Gqabi in Zimbabwe. But, will the everlasting grip of pain engulfing his wife and daughter defy hate, so hate can be scorned by democracy? Who is Joe Nzingo Gqabi and where is the truth that Mrs Nomazotsho Gqabi must pardon?

Joe Nzingo Gqabi was born on the 06 April 1929 in the rural village of Aliwal North in the Eastern Cape. His personal experience of dire poverty imbued in him the revolutionary spirit of clear analysis of how to conduct the armed struggle against the apartheid regime. The stark reality of the hideous realities of apartheid caught up with him when he was a young adult.

From his birth place of Aliwal North, Joe Gqabi went to De Aar in the Northern Cape and later travelled to Johannesburg. He met his wife, Nomazotsho Aurelia, in Johannesburg and was married in October 1958. In 1959, The Gqabi couple were blessed with first-born child Nonkululeko in 1959 and in 1961, Jomo, who has since passed away upon returning to South Africa.

In 1952, he joined the ANC and the Communist Party underground machinery. As a photo-journalist Gqabi's best known investigative work was about the potato farms scandal of Bethal, where human remains were used as fertilizer for

There comes a time when a people must either surrender or fight...

potatoes at the Delmas farms. This led to him being nominated for the much-acclaimed international award, the Julius Fuchik medal, which was only won by Brian Bunting and Govan Mbeki at the time. In 1960, Gqabi was among the 2000 political detainees after the PAC led Sharpeville massacre.

During the generations of apartheid resistance, Gqabi became a committed and distinctive volunteer of the newly formed umKhonto weSizwe, the armed wing of the ANC. When MK was formed on 16 December 1961 in Botswana, Gqabi heeded the clarion call of the conference declaration that said, "The time comes in the life of any nation when there remain only two choices, submit or fight..."

Naturally, Gqabi was among the first volunteers to go for military training in Nangin, China, in the art of war and plastic explosives. Gqabi was a part of a unit of 6 that included Andrew Mlangeni, Raymond Mhlaba, among others. Upon his return, he was arrested in the then southern Rhodesia, and sentenced to two years for travelling illegally. He was re-arrested and charged under the Sabotage Act. In 1963, he was arrested once more in the northern part of Rhodesia with a unit of 28 MK operatives and deported to South Africa.

Tokyo Sexwale, who called Joe Gqabi the unstoppable hurricane, attributes the re-arrest of Joe to being involved in the ANC sabotage campaign on the Reef. He was sentenced to 10 years, adding to the two-year sentence, and thus served 12 years on Robben Island, where, together with Mac Maharaj, Andrew Masondo and Ahmed Kathrada, became part of a communications committee. Joe Gqabi was released on the August 19 1975.

The unstoppable hurricane would then engage with the 1976 student's revolt. Mrs Gqabi admitted at the TRC that her children never really knew their loving father, who actually enjoyed parenting. The uprisings, which prepared the solid foundation for the turning point of South Africa's leadership, would need to be considered on account of Gqabi's milestone contributions.

JOE GQABI REMEMBERED



JUSTICE: Gqabi family commemorates 40th anniversary of the ANC leader's death with call for perpetrators to be brought to book

Firstly, Gqabi worked closely with the courageous young men and women who dared to rise up against the racist regime. Secondly, he provided a vital link between those who prosecuted the struggle internally.

Gqabi was central in rallying most of the epic expectations over the Freedom Charter that, "South Africa belongs to all who live in it". As diverse as the formations and ideologies of the broad resistance movement were, Gqabi was able to articulate a common ground that apartheid was archaic, demonic and had to be replaced. In 1987, OR Tambo admitted that 1976 "caught the ANC by total surprise...we were not prepared for it," he adds. Gqabi was in tune with the pulse of the youth uprisings, though.

On the 40th-anniversary of his assassination, tomorrow, we ought to ponder whether the courageous sacrifices that the Gqabi family made for our democracy are what we are living for. Needless to say, Mrs Gqabi has also reached her octogenarian years. Gqabi's life was an embodiment of a crystally clear message of a better life for all. This was the most cherished article of faith by Joe Gqabi.

Gqabi and Nomazotsho's resistance to apartheid affirmed the supreme value of sacrifice for democracy. South Africa today needs to respond to the burning question whether our democracy has become compatible to the objectives that Gqabi sacrificed his life for. The ideals of a paradox of the morality anpractice of democracy

ought to inform us that much is at stake

He developed the June 16 youth to leave South Africa both as an expression of sacrifice and the advancement of democracy. His intense preoccupation with the June 16 youth is better known for instilling a mature pattern of resistance, insistence on dignity and respect to punctuality. Two months after his release, Gqabi was eager to receive instructions from the exiled leadership. During this period, Gqabi worked in Johannesburg near the Westgate station as a store manager for Kupukani.

That time, Gqabi sent me to Swaziland to receive instructions from the ANC leadership in Swaziland, John Nkademeng and Stanley Mabizela. Nkademeng's instructions were short and stern: "Tell Joe we need him outside".

Gqabi left in 1977 for exile to intensify the internal struggle from Botswana. He was later deployed as the first chief ANC representative in the then newly independent Zimbabwe. By 1979, he was among the team of 6 members from the Politico-Military Strategy Committee, who developed the Green Book based on their visit to Vietnam.

In February 1981, an MK operative who worked with him, Joe 'Kabelo' Ganda, made a gruesome discovery of TNT explosives that were set by the enemy to explode under his car. Fortunately, Ganda who noticed the bomb on time notified the Zimbabwean police, prompting Gqabi to increase his security. There is, no doubt, this was not enough.

Gqabi had developed a direct relationship with the then Minister of State Security Emerson Mnangagwa, who is now the president of Zimbabwe. They held regular meetings that dealt with a

range of issues about the struggle.

Around 8 and 9 pm on the night of July the 31 1981, the apartheid regime mounted a cruel blow to the ANC. The manoeuvres by the Zimbabwe CIO personnel, Collin Evans and Gary Bramfield, together with some SA Intelligence agent Varke Visser and others bore the hallmarks of ultimate heartlessness of apartheid.

Mrs Gqabi first heard of the brutal murder of her husband on radio and was compelled to verify the sad news at a house of her friend and comrade Jonas Gwangwa.

Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi vividly recalls that night of horror: "On the fateful evening of the assassination when we arrived at the Ashdowne Park House in Chitepo and realized that something had happened. "Our immediate response was to inform Minister Mnangagwa in a bid for assistance. He called the head of intelligence and others to come to the scene", Fraser-Moleketi recalled.

On the scene, it could not be confirmed if the 18 bullet cartridges were from the Israeli-produced Uzzi. Fraser-Moleketi admits that Ganda and her saw the virtues of evil from vicious people whose intention was to stop the momentum of the struggle as represented by Gqabi.

Minister Mnangagwa, who was enroute to a summit in Zambia, took the young and gravely angered Ganda to Lusaka to brief the ANC leadership. The brutal murder became an apocalyptic moment of history for Mnangagwa, Zimbabwe, Ganda, Geraldine and the entire ANC. It altered the course of the ANC both internally and externally. Never had there been a more eager disposition of the popular peoples' power that involved the democratic movement inside South Africa, the intensity of the armed struggle, economic sanctions against the apartheid regime and the international boycotts towards total liberation than since 1981.

Zimbabwe declared a State funeral for Gqabi in full support of what the government called "a just fight". At the funeral of Gqabi, Tambo, made a painful admission when he said, "to say the enemy has struck us a blow is to tell the truth... we are all at this graveside here today because the march from Africa's colonial past to her social liberation continues, but we stand on these solemn grounds

He galvanized the popular enthusiasm of the 1976 youth to become the driving force towards a new South Africa in order for them to be vindicated by the fulfillment of the ideals of democracy and sustained leadership.

here today at the instance of Joe Gqabi who has been struck down..."

His son, Jomo, passed away without recovering from that deadly ambush. In 1985, the Gqabi family had seen the effects of the Klerksy Raid in Botswana.

In 2004, Joe Gqabi was reburied in Aliwal North, where a 40th year memorial ceremony will be held on the 31 July 2021. A disheartening feature for Mrs. Gqabi is that the Gqabi home in Aliwal North is dilapidated and in ruins. Is this a desirable legacy that the democratic government can bequeath the Gqabi family, one would ask? Their fight for the destruction of apartheid was to bring sovereignty to the people in an unrestricted manner as part of the outcome of the liberation struggle.

"There has been no formal engagement to require us to forgive the killers," recalls MaGqabi. "Why must I forgive faceless people who have never asked for forgiveness. I am delighted to realize that after 40 years since my husband was murdered, some investigation is now in progress, this may bring to a closure the painful years that my children and I have suffered. My heart bleeds when I think of the killing of my husband, I have not found closure. If those people are still alive, I would like them to apologize to me here in my house in Soweto. They must tell me who sent them to kill my husband and what exactly was their mission," added their daughter, Nonkululeko.

The killers of Joe Gqabi are tainted with guilt, selfishness and immorality of their mission to murder 50 leaders of the African Nation Congress. MaGqabi and Nkululeko's wish is to conduct a full and credible investigation reveals the source of the unfettered evil visited upon her family.

Rapiitse is a film maker and videographer as well as an emerging farm

My heart bleeds when I think of the killing of my husband, I have not found closure. If those people are still alive, I would like them to apologize to me here in my house in Soweto. They must tell me who sent them to kill my husband and what exactly was their mission. - Mrs Gqabi



THEE PRIDE-FUELED HERITAGE DESIGNER

PRIDE: Confidence, nerve & talent of the LGBTQ+ family

By Mpumi Brown

The LGBTQ+ Community has been pushing social and fashion boundaries! After celebrating Pride Month, Weekly Sa Mirror struts into Rich Mnisi's designs on his heritage x Pride, and found him to be a true free spirit, brimming with creative ideas.

Mnisi, based in South Africa, Mnisi designed his brand to unearth Africa's hidden treasures while also portraying the image of being youthful, contemporary and modern. He speaks about the growing recognition for African voices in the world of fashion.

"So many African artists are starting to come out and be recognised for the amazing work that we do. We create from a place of authenticity and we're re-writing all these stories about us. "African stories about our families and our history and how culture should be perceived. There's so much



The label has become known for luxury attire that defies gender stereotypes. While all of his collections are non-binary, Mnisi says his latest actually pays homage to Pride.

"Pride is very important to me and the brand. It's something that we based the brand around and we're doing it at the end of June to symbolise that Pride should be every single day. So, we didn't necessarily stick to Pride month, but we want to extend it throughout the year." Mnisi's latest project is designing furniture. Just like his clothes, his furniture is true to his roots and designed to be thought-provoking.

"When I started thinking of furniture from a functionality point of view, I think it was a very challenging project. Once I started looking at it from a different lens and thinking about it as dressing the body and working with human form, it became such an easy task in a sense." Heritage is an important part of Mnisi's designs, but it is also key



darkness that moulded us and I think now it's time that the light comes out," says Rich Mnisi. This year Rich Mnisi has embarked on multiple collaborations with the likes of Adidas, Thebe Magugu and African Voices Changemakers, CNN International's Arit Okpo. His eponymous fashion label creates inclusive designs that celebrate his heritage and LGBTQ+ Pride.

The Adidas 2021 "DIY" range also featured the luxury designer Thebe Magugu and Rich Mnisi. "With pieces spanning style and performance wear, the expansive collection looks to a hero a 'Do It Yourself' (DIY) visual aesthetic born from the LGBTQ+ communities who had sought to create their own spaces for self-expression. This 'DIY' aesthetic is what inspires the fluid geometries as well as the expressive and layered graphics seen throughout the collection, which includes special Pride colour ways of classic Adidas footwear silhouettes as well as a colourful line-up of apparel," says Thebe.



to the company's manufacturing. Mnisi tells Okpo why supporting local businesses is a central part of his process.

"It's so important to make sure that we lift up all the factories and our models and our local suppliers. It just keeps all of us alive. One of the important things for us is to make sure that the world can also use us and see South Africa as a place to produce in, because there's so much great work that's happening here." Through his clothing collections, and now furniture too, Mnisi weaves together African heritage and contemporary culture to represent Africa today. He sums up his idea of success.

"My definition of success would be how many people you can touch with the work that you do; and how much you can contribute to your community. It's very beautiful knowing that, something as simple as creating or assisting someone or whatever, it can change someone's life."



Wine-ly Yours

LE MAKI SET TO CHARM WITH RITZY AMBIENCE

OPULENCE: Guests to be lavished with gourmet food, cigars, boutique wines



By Len Maseko

A 30-minute drive from Soweto to the affluent Houghton Estate, north of Johannesburg city, is an illuminating journey of contrasts – one a historically wealthy, formerly white exclusive neighbourhood and the other, a predominantly black and much less affluent, largely poor township.

Notably, Houghton is divided into two sections – the Upper Houghton, on the south-eastern side located on the ridge, and the Lower Houghton, which lies on a flatter terrain and is swankier of the two. Lower Houghton has experienced a serious facelift – thanks to re-development and a vibrant property market.

On other hand, Upper Houghton – which is bordered by the less affluent Yeoville – has lost a bit of its lustre and some mansions stand in derelict state, while others have been vandalised and stripped to the ground, vacant and filled with overgrowth.

Yet, thanks to a group of loyal residents, Upper Houghton still holds its old magic, even in its quaint and somewhat less glorious poise. There are mansions still in marvellous state, though, and which ensure the suburb's old-world appeal is preserved for future generations. A drive around conjures an aura of history and heritage complemented by two of Joburg's oldest schools – King Edward VII School and St John's College – which are still in full operation and keeping tradition



UPCOMING LE MAKI GUEST HOUSE ATTRACTIONS

- Renovations to install a wine cellar;
- Doors to open 24 hours for a two-course dining experience and accommodation;
- Guests have an option to stay overnight at one of the four guest rooms (to increase to 10), costing per night (R600 for now until the pandemic is over);
- New general manager to manage already hired;
- Flexible menu, but guests can order customised meals from in-house chef;
- A garden bar is being erected;
- Jazz evenings, especially Fridays, will be scheduled;
- Outdoor entertainment with a pool is under revamp;
- Cigar bar will be available;
- Nominal monthly club fee being mooted;



HOST: Belgian Michel Thysbaert doling up his guesthouse

alive. Just opposite St John's College, hiding and secure behind palisade-topped walls is an imposing double-storey Edwardian mansion on the serene St John's Road. From outside, the structure appears nondescript until the gate opens, revealing a majestic edifice exuding history and mystic of a past that began during the turn of the 20th century. The owner is a raconteur, gourmet chef, wine connoisseur and legend of many epicurean exploits – exuberantly narrated and some untold. Sixty-three-old Michel Thysbaert is a Belgian native – a bon vivant a stranger could easily mistake for a randy French. La Maki on 54 St John Road, is a secluded four-bedroom guest house with an in-house dining set-up that serves both breakfast and dinner on demand, and has been running for several years.

The irrepressible Belgian is a man of many parts, having re-invented himself numerously – he was once a co-founder and winemaker of Ashanti wine estate in the Cape winelands, director at Bene Water, part-owner of the now-defunct Kilimanjaro night club at Melrose Arch. He has always run a shipping company in Hong Kong in the past. After more than 20 years in the country, the Belgian's tenure in South Africa is long



enough to claim citizenship.

Le Maki, the name of his arty guest house, is a home-from-home experience resplendent with African paintings, artefacts and other eclectic collectibles that combine to create a museum and art gallery ambience.

An appointment with Thysbaert is literally a rendezvous with fine food, wine and – for good measure – Epicurean anecdotes and bellyful laughter interspersed with morsels of international gastronomy amid an air of James Bond seduction and mystique. The Belgian is a master of the waltz and his well-stocked kitchen serves as a stage for the exposition of his culinary passions.

First, an encounter with Thysbaert is happily enhanced with a mandatory glass wine, which instantly oils the mounting conversation no sooner than the first swig is swallowed and the wine's hidden qualities unfurled.

His love for cooking and eating gourmet food with the accompaniment of good wine has introduced him to many friends. When he speaks of gastronomy, the passion is palpable and oozes off his chest.

He has just about followed every scent smacking of fine cuisine to every corner of the country. Today, during my visit, he serves chunky mushroom steaks that have smatterings of veggies he "discovered" at the Johannesburg, and is beside himself with joy for the discovery.

"Can you believe what I got at the market today, my first trip there – 6kg of fresh carrots for



RELISH: A yummy dish of mushroom steak with smattering of vegetables

only R6?" says Thysbaert with a wide smile of a cat about to polish off a bowl of milk.

For the starter, we wolf down the delicious dish of mushroom steak topped with exotic veggies with gusto – all gingerly chopped to nuggets in front of me as we savour the slightly chilled Ken Forrester Chenin Blanc. For its goodness, the wine reeks of citrus, asparagus, lime and fresh acidity – characteristics that he instantly senses from the wine following a furious swirling it in the mouth. I promptly agree as I ponder how the lockdowns have unwittingly forced us into an involuntary detox, hence my head spins into a tizz sooner after the first sip. Minutes later, Thysbaert protests and accuses me of dereliction of civil duty for neglecting to ask for a refill.

In between tucking into the main course of oven-cooked liver with his long-time friend, the legendary advertising executive Stan Mphahlele and myself, Thysbaert reveals his current plans to revamp Le Maki Guest House to become a 24-hour hospitality place in the coming months.

The grand plans are impressive. He is hoping to attract epicureans who enjoy good food and wine amid the ambience of music and sedate camaraderie.

RELIABILITY SURVEY: SOME OF THE MOST UNRELIABLE CARS IN THE US

SUPRISING FINDS: Top brands found wanting

By Ali Mphaki

Research will show that much as most people are attracted to cars that look like them, they seldom get to check reliability surveys about their dream cars.

This is not surprising, because in today's world brand loyalty and aesthetics seems to be everything. Also, when it comes to matters of reliability, this is a sensitive topic which most manufacturers would rather skip a red traffic light than stop to discuss. Reliability issues, more than anything else, have the knack of affecting the bottom line.

To try and navigate this thorny issue, we drove to the US this week to find out the outcomes of their recent Reliability Survey from outstanding sources like magazine Forbes Auto. The survey makes some interesting reading, with some of the top marquee brands not that impressive when it comes to reliability:

Here are some of their findings in brief:

LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT

While the Land Rover Discovery Sport is handsome looking, with a particularly appealing interior and decent off-road chops, it falls short compared to its European rivals among compact luxury SUVs. It gets low marks for reliability from both Consumer Reports and JD Power, with CR giving it a dismal overall rating, citing its sub-par overall acceleration

and handling abilities.

BMW 7 SERIES

BMW's flagship sedan seems to have lost its edge in recent years. It's wrapped in languid styling and just doesn't feel as sporty as it did in earlier renditions; an odd product lineup includes an expensive and not especially efficient gas-electric hybrid model. Consumer Reports takes the 7 Series to task for being "a ponderous, technology-laden vehicle with ungainly handling," and is included in the publication's lists of lowest-scoring cars, worst overall values and most expensive operating costs in its class. Not to pile on, but it also gets a rock-bottom resale value rating from ALG and a below average performance score from J.D. Power

JEEP RENEGADE

Though smartly styled, the subcompact Jeep Renegade gets low marks for reliability from JD Power and Consumer Reports. CR also gives the vehicle's driving experience a poor rating, citing issues with engine and transmission response, a rough ride and uncomfortable interior.

ALFA ROMEO GIULIA

The energetic Alfa Romeo Giulia lacks in terms of comfort and cabin ergonomics. Worse, it gets a dismal reliability rating from Consumer Re-

ports. Some auto reviewers reported encountering mechanical issues during their evaluations. In fact, we know someone who was considering buying a Giulia and had not one, but two models off the dealer's lot break down during a test drive.

FORD FOCUS

The compact car market is traditionally one of the industry's most cutthroat segments, and it takes a lot more than the Focus can muster to stand out in a crowded field. With an overall score of 54 and a reliability rating of minus-118, Consumer Reports gave the Focus sedan/hatchback good marks for its ride, handling, and fuel economy, but criticized it for its awkward controls, a too-cramped rear seat, and its poor reliability.

INFINITI Q50

Another also-ran within the European-dominated compact luxury sedan segment, Consumer Reports gives the Q50 an overall score of 57 and a reliability rating of minus-64. CR liked the compact Q50 luxury sedan's acceleration, outward visibility, and roomy interior, but criticized its unrefined power-train, fuel economy, ride and handling, controls, and front seat comfort. It scored below average in the JD Power Design/Performance study and is expected to hold onto just 46% of its original value after three years and 32% after five years.

MOTORING: *Briefs*



NAVARA COMES HOME

Following a substantial investment in its Rosslyn production facility, Nissan is now assembling the facelifted version of the Navara on local soil.

Moreover, the bakkie has undergone extensive local testing and tuning to suit Southern African conditions. Among a plethora of updates, the Navara features a more distinctive (and bold) design – especially at the front, new tyres, suspension improvements, reduced vibration and motion from the body, a recalibrated steering, a larger capacity single-turbo engine, a deeper load tub, plus there's more in the way of connectivity options and safety feature

Ehehe Ford Ranger, Toyota Hilux and Volkswagen Amarok.



GOLF 8 GTI AVAILABLE FROM SEPTEMBER

The long awaited new Golf 8 GTi will be available from September 1.

Coming in at R669 300 the new GTI is powered by a 2.0-litre four cylinder turbopetrol engine with 180kW and 370Nm of torque, up 11kW from its predecessor, powering the front wheels via a seven-speed dual-clutch transmission. VW claims it will get from 0-100km/h in 6.4 second.

HILUX VS RANGER BEST SELLERS

Sales for the first six months of 2021 will show it is a two horse race between Toyota Hilux and the Ford Ranger in the double cab market.

Toyota emerge as South Africa's best-selling double cab with a total of 9 251 units sold between January and June this year.

The Ford Ranger double cab range followed closely with 9 170 sales with Isuzu taking the third position with 4 024 D-Max DC sales.

Overall vehicle sales in South Africa are slowly gaining momentum with June 2021 having seen a 20,2% increase over the same month last year.

CAR JAMMING ON THE RISE

When you leave your vehicle and push the remote to activate the locking system a criminal pushes a remote at the same effectively blocking the signal of the locking remote.

As you leave the vehicle under the impression that it is locked, how wrong can you be? The vehicle is actually left open...

More frustrating is that insurance may refuse to cover the stolen goods. The reason being that there was no break in.

Consumer expert Thuli Zungu warns that the onus is on car owners to double check if their vehicles are properly locked whenever and wherever they may be.

Double check!

GETTING THAT CLASSIC CAR

MAKE YOUR CHOICE: Hobby or long term investment?



A THING OF BEAUTY: The 1953 Buick Skylark Convertible

By Ali Mphaki

Lots of people want to own classic cars. Few are able to make it happen. Even fewer know exactly what they're in for when they sign on for the job. While owning a classic car can be fraught with challenges, it can also be one of the most personally fulfilling and rewarding purchases a person can make.

If you've ever thought about buying a classic car, here's everything you need to know about financing, finding the right car and predicting how much it's going to cost you to maintain your new dream come

There are a number of options short of paying cash. You can liquidate your savings or investments, or even tap into the equity of your home. However, none of these is a super attractive option. A better

one is to directly finance the vehicle.

THE PROBLEM?

A lot of traditional, brick-and-mortar lenders aren't into giving out loans for classic cars. Again, it can be very difficult to get an accurate assessment of a classic car. The market value isn't so much anyone's guess as it's a less objective measure, especially if it's not fully restored.

However, in the Internet age, it's easier than ever to narrow down precisely what you're looking for. Karl Brauer, a senior editor with US Kelly Blue Book, a name virtually synonymous with the value of a car, raises a basic question to help you narrow down what you're looking for:

"Is this a long-term investment or just a hobby?"

If the latter, you don't need to be as selective -- you just want something that you like that isn't

going to be a money pit. On the other hand, if you're investing, you want something that's going to increase in value.

In this case, it's far more important that you know exactly what you're getting. "If you're buying a fully restored, all-original 1965 Mustang, you need to make sure that it's actually a fully restored, all-original 1965 Mustang," he said.

DOING YOUR DUE DILIGENCE

Any time you buy a used car, especially from a private seller, you need to be sure that you're buying a car that isn't going to be a massive money pit. This is even more crucial when it comes to buying a car that might be 40 or more years old.

Other than just tire kicking, experts suggests that you ask for any documentation that might exist on the car, starting with that most basic of information, the VIN.

VINs were formulated differently in cars before 1980, so obtaining things like a Carfax report can be difficult when you're buying a classic car. In the final analysis, unless you're a gearhead yourself, you want to find a seasoned mechanic who specifically deals with classic cars and have him take a look at it. The couple hundred bucks you spend can make all the difference in the world, saving you thousands or even tens of thousands of dollars in the long run.

INSURING YOUR NEW OLD CAR

The good news is that it's significantly less expensive to insure a classic car than a late model vehicle. This is in part because you just aren't going to drive a classic car as much as a late model vehicle. "Insurance is a surprisingly straightforward process," he says, adding that you should always go with an insurance company specializing in classic cars for the best price.

You're likely to get a much better rate, especially if you don't drive it a lot and it's in a locked garage. – The Street.

MABULANA THE NEW OMBUD FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE PENSION FUND

DISPUTE RESOLUTION: To facilitate and investigate complaints in a fair and timely manner

By Isaac Moledi

The Government Employees Pension Fund (GEPF) members, pensioners and beneficiaries can now lodge administrative complaints against the fund following the official appointment of the Government Employee Pension Ombud (Gepo) Advocate Makhado Mabulana this month.

The Ombud office, which is an independent internal structure of the GEPF, has been set up to facilitate, investigate, determine and resolve complaints lodged by members, pensioners and beneficiaries of the GEPF in a fair, impartial and timely manner, according to the GEPF chairperson Dr Renosi Mokate.

"The Ombud office is an internal dispute resolution forum created in terms of a resolution of the Board of the Government Employees Pension Fund to resolve disputes among its members, pensioners, the GEPF, the Government Pensions Administration Agency (GPAA) and the participating employers in the GEPF," Dr Mokate said.

Although the office has been in existence since July 2019 to resolve alleged non-compliance with the Rules of GEPF and the Government Employees Pension Law (GEPL), Dr Mokate said Advocate Ramabulana, a BA Law and LLB degree graduate from the University of Venda, will officially act as Ombud with effect from the beginning of this month. Before his appointment, Ramabulana was a member of the Cape Bar where he practiced as an advocate from July 1999 to July 2004. He has held various roles within the pension funds industry including in the office of the Pension Funds Adjudicator, Financial Services Conduct Authority (FSCA) and remains a Trustee on various Pension Fund Boards.

Besides the above-mentioned mandate, Dr Mokate says the Ombud, which is a first for the GEPF, will also engage in among other issues, unreasonable delays in processing of payments that are due and failure of officials to perform their duties in terms of the Fund's law and rules.

The GEPF, which is among the largest pension funds in the world with over 1.2 million active members and over 450 000 pensioners and beneficiaries, is founded and regulated in terms of the GEPL (1996) and its mandate is to manage and administer pensions and other benefits for government employees in South Africa.

Who can lodge a complaint with the Ombud?

To lodge a complaint, you must be a member, a pensioner or the beneficiary who is a spouse or former spouse or child of the GEPF former member. The Ombud does not have jurisdiction or authority over private pension or provident funds meaning, he does not service members who are not GEPF members.

WHAT CAN YOU COMPLAIN ABOUT?

The complaint must relate to the administration of the pension fund, the application of its rules or the failure by the employer to perform its duties in terms of the rules. In addition to this, the complainant must allege one or more of the following:

- That the GEPF trustees have decided beyond their powers;
- That the complainant has been prejudiced due to the wrongful actions or inactions (maladministration) of GEPF or its administrator, GPAA;
- That a dispute of a fact or law has arisen concerning the administration of the Fund between the fund or any person and the complainant; or
- That an employer who participates in the Fund has not fulfilled its duties in terms of the rules of the fund.

In complaining, you should describe your relationship to the fund, set out the background facts which led to the complaint, specify the dispute between you and the respondent/s and the possible outcome you want the Ombud to order in your favour.

When can you complain to the Ombud

The Ombud may only consider complaints that arose within the last three years, as the Prescription Act, 68 of 1969, provides. The exceptions to the three years are as provided for in the Prescription Act. If you want to submit a complaint that arose more than three years before, indicate which exception provided in the Prescription Act applies to you and how.

What must you do before you lodge your complaint?

If you believe that the GEPF, GPAA or the employer has not performed its duties in terms of the Rules of the fund or the law, you must send a letter to the GEPF, GPAA or the employer pointing out what they failed to do and allow them 30 days to correct the issues that you identified. If after 30 days, your issues remain unresolved, you can sub-



LONG IN THE GAME: Advocate Makhado Mabulana is the man

mit a complaint to the Ombud.

How to submit your complaint to GEPO?

Any complaint submitted to Gepo must be in writing, meaning that, no complaints may be submitted over the telephone or verbally. However, Gepo will still be able to assist any person over the phone or in-person on how to write and submit a complaint. Complaints can be lodged through the post to the attention of Complaints Manager, P.O. Box 11005 Hatfield, Pretoria, 0028 or by email: enquiries@gepo.co.za or Gepo website at www.gepo.co.za. Complainants can also use the office fax facility or telephone enquiries at 012 110 4950 or go to the office to drop the application in person.

What information should be in your complaint?

- Full names and Surname
- ID number
- Peral or employment number (if available)
- GEPF Pension Number
- Your full details that include your cell phone number and an alternate cell phone number in case yours is out of order, email address and physical as well as postal address.

Attach all communications about the complaint sent to GPAA or the Employer and either of the following supporting documents

- Pay slip or a Benefit Statement if you are a member or a pensioner of the fund and you are complaining about a benefit/pension payment related issue.
- Decree of Divorce (Pension Interest) including the court agreement detailing the division of the estate if you are a non-member spouse of a member.
- Death Certificate (Death Benefit), Birth certificate of proof of marriage if you are a beneficiary of a deceased member (child or spouse)

The Complaint

What should be in the complaint should be the background of your problem, the dispute and what you did thereafter and the relief that you think the Ombud should do to make things right.

What happens to a complaint when it is received at Gepo?

When a complaint or an enquiry is received by Gepo, it goes through an assessment to determine whether it is indeed a complaint that can be investigated and decided upon by the Ombud. If the Ombud feels that the complaint is at the wrong place, he will attempt to direct it to the right place, if such a place can be identified. If the complaint is at the right place but it is submitted after the time allowed in terms of the law (prescribed), the complainant will be informed accordingly. If it is not a complaint due to lack of information, the complainant will be assisted to provide the relevant and missing information to make it a complaint.

The Ombud will reject any complaint that has all the relevant information but is insulting, inciting, demeaning or derogatory to any of the parties. These will all be done within 2 weeks of receipt of the initial documents.

The Ombud will not accept or decide on a complaint if:

- The issue complained about has not been brought to the attention of the parties who are supposed to correct it;
- The complaint is not what the Ombud is allowed to decide in terms of the law, the GEPF rules or its mandate.
- The complaint that you are bringing has been decided before by the Ombud or another similar legal Tribunal or a court of law or is currently being considered by another legal body that has powers to decide such issues and it started there before it was brought to the Ombud.

Acknowledgement and the Ombud's response

After a complaint that can be investigated by the Ombud is received, an acknowledgement letter will be sent to the complainant informing him or her that the complaint has been received. The Ombud will then detail the process to be followed before his decision. While the acknowledgement letter is being sent to the complainant, another letter is sent to the respondent, to which a copy of the complaint is attached, requesting the respondent to submit a response to the Ombud and the complainant on a particular date.

When the response is received, the complainant will be requested to comment in writing on whether he/she is satisfied with the response and if not satisfied, why. If the complainant after receiving the complaint is satisfied, he or she may indicate that they are satisfied and do not wish to continue with the complaint. Such matters will be regarded as settled and the file will be closed.

After the response and the reply are received, and the complainant is still unhappy, the complaint will be allocated to an investigator, who is a lawyer to look at the facts of the complaint and decide what rule of the fund or the law of the country applies to the matter. The investigator will then recommend to the Ombud what the possible solution should be.

The Ombud intention is to resolve complaints as quickly and efficiently as possible and normally within 4 months from the time that the complaint is received. However, some complaints may be decided quicker and others later depending on the complexity of the issues and the response time by the parties. According to the Ombud, the Ombud's ruling can only be set aside by a court of law after a review process.

OPEN CONVERSATION WITH ELDERS IN PLANNING YOUR RETIREMENT

By Isaac Moledi

Sanlam Benchmark research reveals that the age most people start to care about retirement saving is when they are at their 40s and 50s. Why? This is because according to their research, this is at the time when they begin to see their parents struggling and the 'realness' of retirement saving starts to hit home.

"It often takes something tangible to cut through apathy. The problem is, for many people, this happens too late," says Viresh Maharaj, Actuary at Sanlam Corporate. What saddens the whole situation is that their research shows that just 5% to 6% of employees can maintain their standard of living once they retire. Maharaj says getting people to care about something intangible like retiring goes beyond financial education. "Education alone does not cause a behaviour change. Think of seatbelts... cigarettes...exercising five times a week - we know what's good and bad for us, but our behaviour stays the same until a catalyst is applied."

He says once a retirement savings account is

TAKE LESSONS AND IMPLEMENT: Ask how they feel and what they'd change if they could go back

set up, most of us mentally 'tick the box' and fail to follow up to see if we're on track. "If I asked you right now, would you know where your retirement savings stand? Would you know how much you need to save overall and whether you're on target? Have you adjusted your contributions to ensure you're aligned with your changing goals?" He says most people don't ask these questions.

"The only way we start to engage as consumers is if we start to care. That's the lever to change behaviour. And that could start with a conversation." Maharaj is advocating that young people sit down with their parents - or other 'elders' in their lives - and ask them if they feel ready to retire, or, what they'd do differently if they've already retired.

He says the Sanlam Benchmark research has

highlighted that observing one's own parents in retirement is a significant catalyst that stimulates individuals to take stock of their own savings and plans for their own retirement. "Try to have an open conversation where you learn from loved ones. Keep it gentle and judgement-free. Ask them how they feel about retiring and, if they could go back, what they'd change.

Then, take the lessons you learn and implement changes in your own retirement savings journey. You have time. You can take their advice and change your situation."

He says the trick is to care. And perhaps after talking to your parents, you will. "So, you care... now what?"

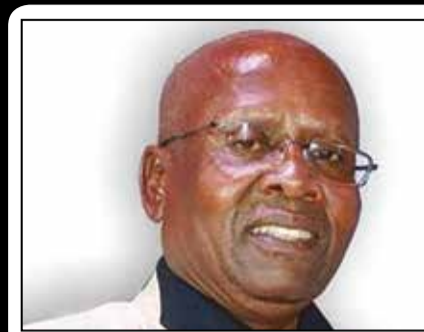
1. Educate yourself. He says there is a significant

amount of material available online to help educate oneself on the basics of prudent personal financial management. Take the time and energy to get a basic understanding.

2. Speaking to a financial adviser. He says It helps to have a professional put the foundations in place so that your investment journey is optimised.
3. Consider what you earn, spend and save. He believes that South Africa's household savings rate is zero. "Are you consciously living beyond your means? Why? It is the aspiration to live that 'Instagrammable' life? Ask the deeper questions. Asking these shows you care. And caring can lead to 'better' financial behaviour.
4. Think about where your retirement funding will come from. He says an interesting Sanlam Benchmark finding was that for most working South Africans, the bulk of your retirement funding will come from your final employer.
5. Stay Invested. He says if you're planning to change jobs, opt for retirement benefits counselling and speak to a trusted financial adviser who will discuss preservation. That has powerful positive implications for your savings. "Chat to your parents or older people you respect. Ask them if they're open to sharing their retirement journey with you. The earlier you begin to care about your own retirement journey, the more likely you are to create a positive one," says Maharaj.

“LOOTING” OF PREMIERSHIP FIXTURES LEAVES RED FACES IN PARKTOWN

INTENTIONAL: Mystery leaking of the forthcoming PSL games schedule may well be described as looting...



Molefi Mika

TOUCHLINE MUSINGS

Allow me to point out – upfront – that this is by no means some English “lesson”, even though the column is going to regrettably focus on two words – loot and leak.

This, all because in some welcome way it’s something that was visited upon us through the happenings at the Premier Soccer League’s (PSL) headquarters out in Parktown in Jozi. We have been unreliably told that the DSTV Premiership fixtures were “leaked”. Probably the PSL’s hierarchy view this act as bad for their image as it also coincides with the current looting engulfing our morally decaying domain.

Well, according to vocabulary.com, “loot” when used as a verb means to “steal” and explains it this way: “During the earthquake people looted the stores that were deserted by the owners.” Shame!

Well, with regard to the supposed leaking of fixtures, this may not be also welcomed by the PSL’s sponsors. But, considering the on-point lambasting of our professional football by fans and the media alike, Parktown had to do some-

thing to prove they are worthy of their status as one of Africa’s most prestigious leagues.

After all, those who know say “leak” also means “an intentional disclosure of something secret or private”. In certain occasions heads roll when culprits are caught, so be warned. Before the leak, or is it the looting of the PSL’s 2021/22 programme, football lovers were left wondering as to whether our Premiership will kick-off or not, an embarrassing situation, to say the least.

Well, to make matters worse in certain quarters the PSL’s leadership, in particular its chairman Irvin Khoza, if not acting-CEO (Mato Madlala) were supposed to have long ago announced the kick-off of the new season. How ludicrous. This was seemingly to be done despite the pending court-hearing instituted by Premiership wannabes Royal AM who, among other things, wanted themselves rather than fellow National First Division associates, Sekhukhune United, to get automatic promotion into the billion-rand sponsored league.

That was not the only thing the swanky Kwa-

Zulu-Natal team wanted the courts to do, as they were also of the view that Madlala, legally speaking allegedly obstructed their promotion and for that deserved some form of punishment – 30 days in jail. The court, however, this week ruled that awarding of points to Sekhukhune which resulted in them, rather Royal AM being promoted, was lawful. The matter was also dismissed with costs.

Call it the last kicks of a dying horse if you may, Royal AM is taking this matter to the Supreme Court of Appeal. And, based on the above, we feel it can’t be viewed as a crime that someone chose to “leak”, if not “loot”, information to remind soccer fans that professional diski will be back in no time in our country.

Our earlier point in a previous column that certain sporting codes were rather cleverly introduced, and with others being reintroduced in the Olympics to benefit the hosting country Japan, matters though seem to prove that that was not some cheap speculation. As much as the official opening of the Tokyo Olympics 2020 was on July 23, competition though began on July 21. Nothing

odd about this any way.

On this day, the first action shown live on TV was a women’s softball group match between Japan and the equally well-groomed Australia.

Well, the ladies from the ballgame-mad Land of the Rising Sun country refused to allow any form of looting as they thrashed the visiting “Aussie Spirit” 8-1. Japan after this went on some cruise mode by beating opponent after opponent. The final was, of course, a dream final between them and the USA, a country that created both baseball and softball. Japanese women couldn’t care about that reputation as they snatched the gold medal with a 2-0 win.

On a sombre note, our national under-23 football team once more proved not to be good enough to go beyond the group stages. The less said about the team officials who had their own squabbling matches at the Olympics village, the better.

Molefi Mika, SA Sport Hall of Fame – 2008 Media Inductee is the author of two non-fiction books: Resilient Ntate Molemela and Dance Siwelele.



INTELLIGENT: Victor “Mokoko” Selane buried recently

Tribute By Anthony Lolwane

To the bereaved family, I bring you special greetings and condolences. I am told that Victor’s wife Niba is in hospital. We wish her a speedy recovery. It is with a heavy heart that I pay tribute to Victor Selane popularly known as Mokoko, Selepe, Kheklakhek depending on your closeness to him.

I am overwhelmed with sadness, I feel surrounded by a dense fog that I fear will never lift. My heart hurts and my mind is filled with memories of the past.

I decided to pen down this tribute rather than speaking off the cuff because you could be listening to me for the whole night. My tribute will be short and brief giving you snippets of my long journey with Victor Selane.

Our friendship with Victor Selane spanning over 30 years was consummated during my tenure as Branch Manager of First National Bank Dube. He was one of the most difficult clients at the Branch and that’s how I really got to know him. As you all know, the most difficult clients get the most attention.

Every time he came to the branch he would insist on seeing me. At some stage I got a bit worried. When a client becomes too friendly, know there’s something the client wants and I had to tread very carefully otherwise I would lose my job. I also made it categorically clear that our friendship

should have nothing to do with the way he conducted his account and most importantly - No Favours. I told him that if doesn’t adhere to the rules and regulations, I will deal with him decisively. But it turned out that I was completely wrong in my assumption. “The book was wrongly judged by it cover”

As our friendship blossomed, I got to know the real Victor the man. A man who at all times had the courage of his conviction and never allowed himself to be swayed by populism. Where there is a difference of opinion, he would engage in healthy debates to ensure that all points of view were considered and he resisted pulling rank on those who were either younger than him or of a lesser status in the bigger scheme of things.

A very astute businessman, tasteful in dress, style and design. As he always said “ek slaan die ndukus my bra” An entrepreneur of note long before entrepreneurship became fashionable. At that time he was playing in the construction’ space and had a filling station in Diepkloof.

Little did I know that he is an ex-footballer - a prolific striker in his younger days and later after hanging his football boots got heavily involved in the soccer fraternity and owned a football team. Am sure football legends will bear testimony to that.

Victor Selane was intelligent with an excellent sense of humour. His favourite slogans/phrase “ek sal jou smeer Charlie”. I remember introducing

Phenias Desando to Victor. And he said “Wie Phenias? daais n” kak naam”. That’s Victor for you.

At some stage we became business partners together with the same Phenias. The three of us created a Special Purpose Vehicle to acquire a stake in an existing glass manufacturing company in order to compliment Victor’s construction business but the acquisition fell through because the owners of the glass company were not honest and wanted to use us as fronts. We therefore refused vehemently.

Victor Selane belonged to the A Team, a group of prominent business people with diverse backgrounds. Some years ago, he once invited me to Bobby Motaung’s underground or basement restaurant in Fox street downtown where he introduced me to the rest of the A Team members. There were about 8 of us and looking around I knew I was definitely a misfit.

I was the only salaried employee amongst business owners and/or entrepreneurs. We took turns paying for the drinks which were very expensive – knowing the A Team. Every time it was my turn to pay I would say to myself, “there goes my salary”. I would then look at Victor and he would say to me “don’t worry I will pay”. The next day he called me and said “I signed a cheque for those drinks, please honour it. That’s Victor for you – a smart, and an astute businessman.

Taking into consideration my meagre salary, I did not fit into that lifestyle and therefore did not belong there. That was my first and last experience

VICTOR SELANE

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

DAPPER SOCIALITE: Astute businessman, former football club owner, and prolific striker of mean repute in his heydays...

with the A Team.

One of my clients gave me a travel bag as gift. The bag had an emblem/a badge with the letter A. When Victor saw my bag he said, “Jy is baie duur neh, jy slaan met n’ Etienne Aigner bag”. I did not know what he was talking about. I was under the impression that the A was the first letter of my name-Anthony. He said “Jy is maar n’ volle moegoe”.

Victor Selane was very humble, very generous, reliable and dependable. We engaged in robust political, soccer and business heated debates and he would remain calm. A very good listener.

Fast forward to 2015, his Diabetic condition deteriorated and had to start the dialysis process. That reduced his travelling drastically but we continued meeting socially and spoke at least once a week. On this particular day i.e. last week Tuesday we cracked so many jokes sand laughed our lungs out, little did I know this was our last chat together.

When his daughter Kenosi called me to break the terrible news that Victor had succumbed to covid-19 complications, I was completely devastated.

Victor, Mokoko, Kheklakhek, you have fought the good fight, the race which you came to run is completed, now wear the victor’s crown with glory. Rest in peace and may God’s perpetual light shine upon you.

A memory I will always remember and cherish... To the Selane family, stick together and be strong for each other in these testing times...

SPORTS: *Briefs***SUNDOWNS LADIES CAF SOJOURN...**

JOHANNESBURG - South Africa will be represented by Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies in the inaugural 2021 TOTALENERGIES CAF Women's Champions League. The COSAFA Qualifier will be played from 26 August - 4 September.

The draw on Tuesday saw Sundowns being seeded in Group A along with Lesotho Defence Force, Double Action Ladies from Botswana and Eswatini's Manzini Wanderers.

Group B sees Zambia's Green Buffaloes drawn alongside Black Rhino Queens of Zimbabwe and TURA Magic from Namibia.

The top two teams in each pool will advance to the semifinals.

Both FIFA and CAF President Dr Patrice Motsepe have targeted growing women's football in coming years and the COSAFA competition is a big step forward for Southern Africa in this regard.

The competition will be followed almost immediately by the COSAFA Women's Championship that will take place from September 9-19 in Nelson Mandela Bay.

2021 TOTALENERGIES CAF WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE I COSAFA QUALIFIER DRAW**Group A**

Mamelodi Sundowns (South Africa)
Lesotho Defence Force (Lesotho)
Double Action Ladies (Botswana)
Manzini Wanderers (Eswatini)

Group B

Green Buffaloes (Zambia)
Black Rhino Queens (Zimbabwe)
TURA Magic (Namibia)

**FIRST OLYMPIC GOLD FOR SA!****MILESTONE: Tatjana Schoenmaker smashes world record to win gold in women's 200m breaststroke**

South African Tatjana Schoenmaker smashed the long-standing women's 200m breaststroke world record Thursday to win the Olympic gold medal. The 24-year-old timed 2min 18.95sec to better the 2:19.11 set by Denmark's Rikke Moller Pedersen in 2013.

America's Lilly King was second in 2:19.92 with her team-mate and training partner Annie Lazor third in 2:20.84. The 24-year-old Sch-

oenmaker, who won silver in the 100m event, had signalled her intent by going close to the record in the heats and she made no mistake in the final.

King went out fast and turned first at both the 50m and 100m mark before Schoenmaker made her move, reeling in the American to touch first.

It made her the first female South African to win an Olympic swimming gold since 1996,

when Penny Heyns swept the women's 100 and 200 breaststroke.

Despite missing gold, it was an improvement for King who placed 12th at the Rio Olympics.

It was the third world record in the Tokyo pool, but the first individual one after Australia's women set a new mark in the 4x100m relay and China did the same in the women's 4x200m relay. - Agence France-Presse

**SPRINGBOKS HOPE TO JUMP OVER BRITISH AND IRISH LIONS**

The Springboks are hoping to stage a comeback when they face the British and Irish Lions in the second test match at the Cape Town Stadium on Saturday.

The Rugby World Cup champions lost 17-22 to the tourists in Cape Town last weekend. The Boks showed their class in the opening half, before allowing the British and Irish Lions to register a come from behind victory.

South Africa is expecting to give a much improved performance against the British and Irish Lions who currently lead the three match series 1-nil.

But not since Australia in 2001 has a team recovered from losing the opening match to win the series. The Springboks showed why they are the reigning World

champions in the opening half, only to run out of steam in the second half and in particular to wards the end of the match.

Boks centre Lukhanyo Am gave a good account of himself in the opening test and expects another physical and bruising battle on Saturday. - SABC News

GEORGE "BEST" MORE LEGACY CONTINUES**DESERVED HONOUR: At last a tournament to honour the legendary goal poacher****TWO GREATS: Former striker George "Best" More and former deputy president Kgalema Motlanthe**

By Masoja Cele

Those in the know will attest that former deputy president Kgalema Motlanthe was a prolific soccer player growing up in dusty Meadowlands in Soweto,

Which is why it didn't come as a surprise when Motlanthe, despite his busy schedule, could make time to help Setshedi More, the son of legendary prolific striker George "Best" More to start a foundation named after his father.

After years of neglect, the former talisman finally received the recognition he deserved from those who believe in his renowned status. More, starred for football giants, (the defunct) Pimville United Brothers, Kaizer Chiefs, Orlando Pirates and (the resuscitated) Pretoria Bantu Callies, among others.

His goal scoring prowess were of great stature and rare to find. More scored goals that even today are inscribed in the minds of legions of yesteryear football fanatics. He packed ferocious power in both legs and a menace to opposition goalkeepers.

Today, the great More is the proud recipient of George Best More Foundation Academy which was established in 2017. Credit to George "Best" More,

Setshedi More, the son of the legend and Kenny Makara, the academy trainer.

The trio paid a gallantry visit to the residence of former president with the objective of launching the foundation. Setshedi More who serves as the CEO of the foundation and the instructor of the under 17 team of the academy couldn't hide his excitement of the faithful day. "Certainly, the conclusion of our social call to the former president paid satisfactory dividends.

We left Mr Mothlante's dwelling sobbing tears of joy," says More junior. "The former statesman of the country influenced and advised us to persuade the concept. He mentioned that my dad's recognition for his contribution in football was imminent. He promised to convey our discussion to the Premier of Gauteng, David Makhura, the rest is history "added More junior.

"I humble myself to tell you that our first soccer-kit for our under 11 and 13 juniors was contributed by Mr Makhura. He also donated soccer boots to the foundation".

The objective of the foundation is to groom the youngsters and prepare them for future. It's not only about football, we teach them life-skills and encourage them to study. Already we have produced three University under graduates, two are enrolled at the UJ Campus and one is studying at Westville University in KwaZulu-Natal "boasted More junior. The George "Best" More Foundation sheltered juniors of age 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17. The progression of the academy has grown tremendously.

Our under 9's claimed two titles in the Pimville-Klipspruit Zonal League while the under 17's brought home three league titles. As a foundation we are excited with such glorious achievement. Our vision is to transform this little baby into a big elephant". "Because of the More's origin, we intend to flex our muscle as far as North West. The More's originates from Makolokwe in Brits

Post Covid 19 pandemic, the foundation would launch George "Best"More Invitation Cup in Brits. The event would be contested by the under 13's and

**PROLIFIC: George "Best" More in his hey-days playing for Orlando Pirates**

under 17's". Though, the institution came into existence through the legendary George "Best" More's aspirations, it however benefited other legends of football. unprecedented "Definitely, in 2019 we unveiled a Legends Cup.

The tourney is played in honour of those who played during the era of "Best" More. Notably, the maiden beneficiaries of the legends cup went to More, Johannes "Yster"Khomane and James "Mebra"Qqosha who evidently were teammates at the Skom Boys and later at Bucs.

"However, our vision for 2020 and 2021 legends tournament had to be postponed because of the protocols and regulations of Covid 19 " says More junior. The younger More is the driving force behind his dad's foundation and has so far acquired adequate valuable experience from his Europe sojourn. "

"In 2019 I was voted the best coach in our league. And I was rewarded with a trip to Spain. While in Spain, I visited teams like Sevilla, Real Betis and Barcelona. It was such a great experience. I believe the coaching and life skills I learned in Spain will be of great value to the foundation," he said.

SIX CARLING CHEERS FOR BUCS



By Masoja Cele

Can Orlando Pirates clinch the Carling Cup for the sixth time? Once more, the pre-season spectacle the Carling Black Label Cup football is upon us. Habitually contenders Orlando Pirates and Kaizer Chiefs would face-off in the 2021 edition at Orlando Stadium on Sunday. Kick-off 17:00 Amazingly, for the first time since its inception, the event will be played at Orlando Stadium.

For a decade, FNB Stadium had been the host of the prestigious competition. Conversely, the investors remarkably ponder the prospect to commemorate the achievement of the cup through the years by hosting the match at a venue that appropriate suits the legacy of the two Soweto football giants.

As usual, the sponsors and the DStv Premier League are sparing no efforts to make this showpiece a spectacular event on our football calendar. Nevertheless, this Carling Cup edition would oddly be played in an empty arena due to Covid 19 regulations.

Titleholders, Pirates won the 2019 edition with a 2-0 score line against AmaKhosi. Unquestion-

PRE-SEASON DERBY: ORLANDO STADIUM TO HOST ENCOUNTER FOR THE FIRST TIME AFTER A DECADE IN A MATCH CHIEFS WILL HATE TO LOSE

ably, the Buccaneers would want to defend the trophy with vigour and pride. After finishing a rather disappointing third behind title winners Mamelodi Sundowns and the surprise package AmaZulu, Bucs have bolstered their ensemble with quality playing personnel.

The arrival of Kwanda Mngonyama, Bandile Shandu (both from Maritzburg United) Goodmen Mosele (from Baroka) and the 2020/21 GladAfrica Championship leading goal scorer Monapule Saleng (from Free State Stars). The skilful Shandu could be a perfect partner to Vincent Pule.

His style, dedication and poise could be more suitable for Bucs right channel where Pule regularly operates. Another new arrival, Mosele will be a vital cog in the Pirates camp. The prodigy

Mosele is arguably the most prized assets in the DStv Premiership League circles today. The mid-field-grafter's performance during the 2020/21 earned him a place in the under 23's SA Olympic team. Nonetheless, Pirates will have to be cautious against the wounded Amakhosi.

Chiefs who are still licking the wounds from 3-0 hiding against Al Ahly in the CAF Champions League final a fortnight ago.

The Phefeni Glamour Boys have also raided the transfer market and acquired experience campaigners. Seasoned troupes in the form of Keegan Dolly (from Montpellier Hérault SC in France) Njabulo Ngcobo (from Swallows FC) and Cole Alexander who plied his trade at Club Odisha in India. The trio could add the missing spark in the

AmaKhosi ensemble. Given Thibedi has been recalled from his two year loan spell from Swallows FC.

With the new recruits Chiefs can turn the tables in the final of the Carling Black Label Cup. AmaKhosi faithful's would behold with curiosity the fact that Dolly's re-union with Kham Brilliant and Leonardo Castro will rekindle the "CBD" identity. The trio were the mainstay of the 2014/15 Sundown's team that snatched the Absa Premiership title under the guidance of Pits Mossman.

Identical with cup success after its dominance in the 1970's and 80's, Chiefs have played second fiddle to Pirates who has dominated the competition since its inception in 2011. Interestingly, Pirates have won the Carling Cup on five occasions while their rivals only earned the trophy thrice. In 2018 the tournament was cancelled due to the FIFA World Cup in Russia.

And again, in 2020 the Carling Black Label Cup was shelved owing to Covid 19 pandemic. The Sea Robbers will want to maintain the image and the bragging rights of bringing home the trophy for the sixth times.

Come Sunday, Pirates will defend the trophy like a Lioness guarding its Cups against the enemy