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THURSDAY DECEMBER 12, 2019

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BAYETHE: His Majesty King Mswati III leading the regiments in the dancing of Incwala songs at Ngabezweni Royal Residence yesterday evening. His Majesty also received throngs of Ingaja who anticipate being commissioned for the cutting of Lusekhwane. (Pic: Simon Shabangu) **MORE ON PAGES 2, 4**



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TEEN THROWS MEAT INTO PIT LATRINE

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COPS SHOOT, KILL 2 THUGS

Recovered over E28 000, 14 cellphones and other items

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WE ARE READY: EMS Ingaja captured in song and dance as they prepared for the big march. This was at Ngabezweni Royal Residence yesterday evening where His Majesty welcomed Ingaja from all over the country who are ready to be commissioned. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

INGAJA READY FOR COMMISSIONING

BY SIMON SHABANGU
Ngabezweni

INGAJA is ready for the commissioning by His Majesty King Mswati III to the cutting of the Lusekwane as witnessed by their jovial mood upon their arrival at Ngabezweni Royal Residence yesterday.

The Ingaja, which comes from different parts of the country, is waiting in anticipation for His Majesty to direct them to the various places where they will cut the Lusekwane shrubs.

This draws nearer the dancing of the Main Incwala as the Lusekwane precedes the former. The Lusekwane shrubs are used inside the Ludzidzini Cattle Byre to build the sacred enclosure (*inhlabelo*) ahead of the dancing of the Main Incwala.

The jovial Ingaja joined the King and the regiment in dancing the Little Incwala which started just a few moments after

the King's arrival.

His Majesty dispatched the Ingaja from Hhohho region at Buhleni Royal Residence on Tuesday evening and ordered them to move to Ngabezweni where they arrived safely yesterday afternoon. The numbers of the Ingaja is expected to swell as more will be arriving this morning from various parts of the country as the cutting of Lusekwane is a pride of every young man.

The Ingaja also takes pride in that His Majesty does not only commission them but also joins them in the long walk which is nothing less than 20 kilometres before unleashing them to comb the thick indigenous forests to find the best shrubs. Also noted amongst the regiment was Prince Mcwasho who leads Ingaja from Lubombo region, who is currently studying abroad.

He was spotted among the many Ingaja who joined the King yesterday. Prince Mavela, who is also studying abroad, is also back home for the Lusekwane.

The Little Incwala started on the 28 of November at Ludzidzini Royal Residence where the King first danced for about three days before moving to Ngabezweni Royal Residence.

His Majesty then moved to Mbangweni Royal Residence in Shiselweni before relocating to Buhleni Royal Residence where he was to later disperse the Ingaja from that region.

His Majesty usually spends about three days in each of the royal residences.

RAINS WELCOME INGAJA

Meanwhile, the Ingaja received a baptism of rain as there was a brief moment of light to heavy rain which swept through the Royal Residence.

This was a sign of blessings according to traditionalists as rain is associated with showers of blessings from above. His Majesty, Emakhosikati and all present were not bothered by the rain as the song and dance continued uninterrupted.

Girl (17) throws meat into pit latrine

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI
Manzini

A 17-year-old girl startled the court when she narrated how she threw meat into a pit latrine to spite her aunt.

*Deli was giving an account of what had happened between her and her aunt Fikile Gwebu that led to the latter being arrested and charged with contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act 15 of 2018.

Standing in the witness dock, Deli told the court that it was during the day when she and others were packing some pork chops into packages in readiness for sale.

The teenager said this was her grandfather's business. After packing the meat, Deli said her grandfather told them to eat the remaining portions, and this was to be shared by Deli, siblings and aunt Fikile.

However, the aunt reportedly took the meat and kept it in her refrigerator.

When Deli went to take the meat to cook, Fikile is said to have told her to leave it in the fridge.

This is when Deli told her aunt that the meat was meant to be eaten by everyone and not by Fikile and her children.

After having said this and other things that cannot be repeated, Deli said she took the meat package and threw it into a pit latrine.

When Magistrate Lucia Lukhele asked why she did so, Deli said it was because if she had left the meat in her aunt's fridge, she and her disabled younger sister could have not eaten same because Fikile wouldn't give it to them.

Proceeding with her account, Deli said when she returned to the house she found Fikile waiting by the entrance with a walking stick, which she used in assaulting her all over the body.

This assault was reportedly preceded by a rain of claps with open hand and a knock against the wall.

In retaliation, Deli told the court that she splashed cold water on her aunt. The two are said to have engaged in a fight until one member of the family stopped them.

In the evening when Deli's grandfather was home, the matter was discussed and the elderly's resolution was that Deli should leave for her mother's place KaKhoza.

However, upon arrival at KaKhoza, Deli said she ingested several pills in an attempt to kill herself, but soon after, her maternal grandmother told her to leave. While at the bus station, Deli said she collapsed and was assisted by her brothers who took her to hospital.

"I was too angry at my grandfather for not taking my side in the matter so I tried to commit suicide," she said.

During cross-examination where the magistrate asked why Deli was not in school, it transpired that Deli dropped out of school when she fell pregnant while she was only 15 years old.

The father of the child is said to be 22 years old. When in court, Deli was alone yet she is still a minor by law. The magistrate said Deli's decision to throw away the meat was an offence on its own, and trying to take away her life without having considered her child was an extreme behaviour.

From all this, Magistrate Lukhele said Deli needed counselling because her behaviour was worrying.

"I'm not happy with Deli's behaviour and her family needs to intervene," the magistrate said, directing her comments to Fikile who was sentenced to one year imprisonment with an option of E2 000 fine.

However, the sentence was wholly suspended for a year on condition that she did not commit a similar offence during this period.

Prince Sobandla celebrated

BY NOKUZOLA THWALA
Lobamba

THEIR Majesties appreciate everyone who supported Prince Sobandla during his illness.

Prince Sobandla, who passed away on Sunday, was laid to his resting place yesterday morning following a traditional royal procession (*ngelisiko leMalangeni*).

This was said by the King's representative, Bishop Dr. Nash Shongwe during the night vigil held in honour of the prince at KaNdlela in Nkhanini on Tuesday.

He said Their Majesties appreciated support by the late prince's children who were there throughout his sickness, royal family members, doctors, health support staff, those who prayed and everyone who showed support in any

way. Dr. Shongwe said Their Majesties sent condolences to the entire Eswatini nation as he was a people's person because when he was present people were always happy.

Condolences were also sent to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and abroad as the prince was known all over.

"Their Majesties were happy as he handled everything exceptionally well; everything was perfected when the *Umntfwanenkosi* had a hand in it. Even in the different councils he did just that. *Bewubona kutsi lapha kubambe indvodza sibili*. He was so humble that one wouldn't even think he is a prince," said Their Majesties.

Adding, they said Prince So B, as he was affectionately known, was educated but never swayed from the truth, loved his culture and was loyal to them. No one would speak ill of Their Majesties

in his presence. To attest that he loved his culture, Prince Sobandla asked to be temporarily discharged from hospital to attend Incwala.

Their Majesties were comforted by the fact that the prince died having repented and accepted Christ as his saviour. Every chance he got he shared the Word of God.

"Their Majesties have these words of comfort for you; **2 Timothy 4: 6-8** which reads thus 'For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. The prince has fought a good fight, not losing faith until the end of his life,'"



said Dr. Shongwe.

HE WAS A SELFLESS MAN- PRINCE TSHEKEDI

Senior Prince Tshekedi said the Prince Sobandla was a selfless man who went out of his way to bring comfort and quality to others.

He made an example of how during traditional events he would fork out money to buy kanga for members of the royal family to be in uniform. Prince Tshekedi echoed other speakers and said the late prince

was a culture aficionado. He shared a few hilarious memories he had with the prince.

"He once asked his mother Inkhosikati LaNgilima for money under false pretence, when asked what it was for; Prince Sobandla said it was for photosynthesis. Another time, we were in a flight to America when the prince and other family members requested alcoholic drinks not knowing they were not for free.

When it was time to pay they looked at each other in a dilemma not knowing what to do as they didn't have money, I had to rescue them," reminisced the senior prince.

HE WENT AN EXTRA MILE - MATHOKOZA MTETWA

Mathokoza Mtetwa, who spoke on behalf of the religious sector, said the Christian tripartite groups could all agree that he went an extra mile. Mtetwa said Prince Sobandla worked beyond his call of duty as

POLICE SHOOT, KILL TWO THUGS

BY BONGUMUSA SIMELANE
Mbabane

● E28 000, 14 cellphones and guns recovered

THE Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) yesterday shot and killed two South African armed robbers believed to be responsible for a series of robberies around the Lubombo region.

Before being shot, the thugs who had hired a taxi from Siphofaneni en route to Manzini, and later demanding to be dropped at Ngwenya Border Post, were stopped along Malagwane where police had mounted a roadblock.

The suspect robbers were three in number, two South African nationals and one Liswati.

The suspect robbers were identified and caught by the Mbabane police after a tip off from Siphofaneni police.

The Siphofaneni police reported that there had been a series of crimes committed in the area and the three were the prime suspects.

When the police realised that they were outnumbered by the men at the roadblock, they escorted them to the Mbabane Police Station for questioning. Upon arrival at the station the police ordered the men to step out of the car with their hands in the air.

They obliged but when they were about to enter the police station they then opened fire to the police. The police who were caught off guard by the shooting retaliated and opened fire too. The action movie-like scene which almost claimed lives of the police happened within minutes.

In the short scuffle, one of the thugs was shot on the arm by the police. Information gathered was to the effect that some of the police that were inside the police station were unarmed which made it hard for them to provide back up to the under siege officers. Bullet holes were noted by the entrance and walls at the police station.

It is reported that at one point, one bullet from outside strayed into the station



BACK: Police return to their workstation after conducting an operation yesterday.

hitting the front desk and ricocheting back to the glass door.

Scuffle

Moments later, the police and the thugs were involved in scuffle whereby the thugs managed to take one of the officer's pistols and fleeing with it.

The thugs then took off on foot and headed to Nkoyoyo. Police then issued a statement on the Eswatini Broadcasting Information Services where they called upon the public's cooperation in apprehending the thugs.

Police Information and Communications Officer Phindile Vilakati when confirming the matter said the police got a tip off of the thugs' whereabouts from Motshane residents where they were said to have been looking for a car that would take them to Esicancweni (Oshoek).

Having failed to get the car in the morning they went into one homestead in Motshane to ask for water to drink and

the woman they found in the homestead upon realising they were the wanted thugs called the police.

The police with the assistance of Montigny sniffer dogs and those from the Operations System Support Unit (OSSU) traced them and the first one was found in a shrub up in the mountain.

When he saw that he was surrounded by the police he opened fire and the police fired back and he was shot dead in the process.

The second was also found moments later and attempted to escape from the armed police but was also shot. He was certified dead upon arrival at the hospital.

The third suspect, believed to be Liswati, who got shot in the arm is reported to be still at large, but police were following leads at the time of compiling this report.

E28 000, over 14 cellphones recovered from thugs

UPON their apprehension, the thugs were found to be in possession of E28 000, 14 cellphones and the police gun.

This was revealed by Director General in the CID department Deputy Commissioner Sam Mthembu in an interview.

Mthembu said the thugs are connected to a string of robberies more especially in the Lubombo region.

Mthembu said one of the thugs was found to be in possession of 14 cellphones. The thugs were also found to be in possession of two pistols which had live rounds of ammunition which are said to have been used in committing the crimes.

Some of the items were found in

the taxi that they had hired and the rest in their possession.

Among the crimes that were committed in the Lubombo region, Mthembu said the thugs were alleged to be in connection with the armed robbery at Buy Cash Hardware. Also a bakery was robbed and undisclosed money was taken.

"According to our investigations the money was taken from those robberies and we are still gathering more information relating to other crimes," Mthembu said.

Moreover, Mthembu said that the thugs were from the neighbouring South Africa and investigations were underway as one of them was still on the loose.

Taxi man saved cops

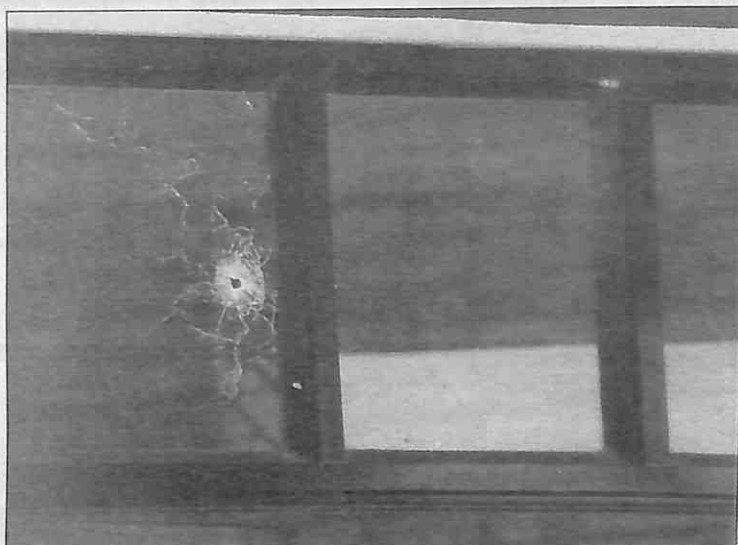
THE taxi man who was hired by the thugs who are connected to a string of robberies saved the lives of the two cops.

When the taxi the thugs were travelling in was signalled to pull over by the police, the thugs all agreed in one voice that they should shoot and kill the police officers because they were only two and looked young. Upon realising that, the taxi man politely asked the thugs not to

shoot at them because they were only two and they were just searching for dagga.

At that time the thugs are reported to have already bridged their pistols in readiness to shoot and kill the police.

The taxi man insisted that they should not kill them and they finally listened to him and they obliged to the orders that were issued by the officers.



DAMAGE: One of the windows was left with a bullet hole after the shootout.

minister of home affairs, they frequently worked with him because all denomination affiliated to the tripartite were under the ministry.

He said even as an emissary to Their Majesties of the African Evangelical Church (AEC), he did exceptionally well being fully involved and showing love.

"We are really saddened by this loss. I am sure that everyone who came to him was received with warm hands and received helped as best known by the Prince," he said.

PRINCE SOBANDLA HAD UNEQUALLED INTELLIGENCE- PASTOR SENZO HLATSHWAKO

The Master of Ceremonies Senzo Hlatshwako said the Prince had unprecedented intelligence.

He said the prince knew the Bible from cover to cover and would quote the Bible as is.

"Remember, he studied medicine but never completed. I was fortunate

to have journeyed with him for 19 years on a spiritual journey. I bought him a Bible in 2001, in 2010 he told me that one was torn and I bought him another one. November 15, I went to see him in South Africa where he asked me to get him another one. That never came to be as he never came back," elaborated the Pastor.

The MC emphasised that the night vigil went very well and Emaswati from all four regions showed support. This showed that indeed the Prince was a people's person.

"From the royal family, to your ordinary Liswati, traditionalists, politicians, church representatives, people who worked with him and people from abroad.

The Migliettis, his in-laws came, Emampondo sent representatives. All in all the service was great, the prince was well spoken of from all angles and Bishop Nash Shongwe spoke on behalf of Their Majesties," emphasised the MC.

OBITUARY

The Title, a People's Prince fits Prince Sobandla as water fits a river. The Prince was a people person, jolly and ebullient while strong and forthright. When they have passed away, as people we struggle for fitting anecdotes about the life of the departed.

Prince Sobandla allows that affliction to attach to his legacy, and lived his life fully under the full glow of the sun.

He was royal, descended from Dlamini through Kings past; Ngwane, Ndungunyeh, Somhlolo, Mswati II, Mbandzeni, Mahlokohla and was born a Prince, scion of King Sobhuza II.

Born in 1948, he was the younger of two children of Inkhosikati Msobhiyane Mbingo, uLaNgilima. Being born soon after the return of the Swazi contingent that fought in the Second World War, Prince Sobandla naturally fell into the Lindimpi (Malindane) regiment that stood in preparation for the next world war.

The Royal regiments are an excellent school for a royal up-bringing, being rich in the lessons of commitment, of history, of predictability, of law and culture; of leadership and a vantage point from where one learns the weave of the many strings that threaten the national tapestry. Prince Sobandla took full advantage of these benefits and excelled. Anyone who encountered the Prince left with strongest impressions of that moment. Prince

Sobandla could express himself eloquently and forcefully whichever was required by the occasion. He possessed a strong and very rich diction from which he dipped liberally and with flair. Though he lived with royalty, he was not immune to that common touch that made him approachable that enjoined him to hold fort in conversation on subjects far and beyond the constraints of his station. As a young man, the Prince went through the routine path of education of all royal children that went through the Swazi National High School, and for those with the acumen, further education in the United States of America.

The prince elected to study medicine and would have been one of two of King Sobhuza's children to graduate as doctors. Because Umntfwanenkhozi was an exceptional man, he made his announcement to Ingwenyama Sobhuza II that he intended studying medicine, much to His Majesty's astonishment! Ingwenyama posed two concerns to him.... "Njobe siyakwesaba kufa lakhalay".

"How are you going to pursue medicine without having taken physics or chemistry in high school?" Watsi Umntfwanenkhozi "Nangebe kwentiwa ngumntfu, ngingahlulwa yini, Siloskhulu?" And so it is that he studied in the USA, and later enrolled at the Medical University of Ghana at Koforidua, Ghana. He was pursuing his studies at the University of Nairobi in Kenya when the demise of King Sobhuza III was announced in 1982. He cut short his studies and returned home

for the royal transition rituals. Prince Sobandla made and maintained friendships easily across social stations, across protocols and cultures. He loved music, which flowed in his veins. Like most of Royal stock, he came visibly elated during ceremonial celebrations especially in the many rituals surrounding Incwala. He was an active visible and audible leader among the regiments, and an exceptional singer of the ancient ballads, lullabies and songs that indelibly traced his ancestry beyond the mist of time. As a representative of the Royal family, Prince Sobandla was rare. His love of music was tangible and engaged. During his brief sojourn in East Africa his spirit was captured by the cadences of central and east Africa music, and for reasons not difficult to explain, it struck a cord and touched his heart. Prince Sobandla teamed up with a group of central Africans, and with Rhumba Stars, returned with into the Kingdom.

Together they composed "Khula Mlisa, Khula Nkhosi". It was a song fit for the times, and quickly became the anthem of royal praise. Prince Sobandla joined the 6th Parliament and became His Majesty's minister of home affairs, a role that made him chief celebrant of national events. He has since occupied many national roles in royal advisory committees.

Prince Sobandla was genuine human and one of a kind in his lifetime. He will be sadly missed by his family. Most of all, he will be missed by the people of his country, for he was a prince of the people.

INGAJA ARRIVES AT NGABEZWENI



IN SONG: His Majesty King Mswati III joined by throngs of regiments as they dance to the Incwala songs. This was during the welcoming of the Ingaja who arrived in numbers in readiness to be commissioned by the King today. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



ROYALTY: Emakhosikati joined by members of the Royal family dancing at the event.



AYIBUKELWA: Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini dancing with libutfo upon his return from working trips where he represented the King.



IN NUMBERS: A section of the regiments who were joined by Ingaja during the dancing of Inqaba Kanqofula.

NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the office will be closed for the Festive Holidays from Friday, the 13 of December 2019 and will resume normal operations on Monday, the 6th of January 2020.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused and we thank you for your understanding.

**NOTICED ISSUED BY:
NHLANHLA DLAMINI
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



BACK HOME: Prince Mcwasho (c) is back home from school in readiness for the cutting of Lusekwane.



PRESENT: Senator Ndumiso Mdluli, Hlangabeza Mdluli, Makhosi Magongo and Dumisa Dlamini at the Incwala.

FESTIVE CAUTION FROM ESWATINI BANKERS ASSOCIATION

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO
Mbabane

THE Eswatini Bankers Association (EBA) has cautioned the public about financial crimes that could be prevalent this festive season.

The association has noted that criminals were always looking for opportunities to defraud their victims, particularly at this time of the year hence the need to caution members of the public, especially their customers.

The EBA Chairperson Zakhele Lukhele has urged customers using banks to be wary of the latest crime trends so that they do not fall victim.

Bank customers are urged not to accept any assistance while transacting at automated teller machines (ATMs).

Lukhele said personal identity numbers (PINs) were easily acquired by shoulder surfing, enabling the fraudster to utilise the card immediately and, therefore, urged the public to prioritise the setting of daily withdrawal and transaction limits, according to their needs.

Cards

"Never accept help from a stranger. He may say things like telling you the machine is slow and if you punch-in your PIN again it will be faster and in turn copy your PIN. Always shield with your hand when punching your PIN at the ATM or POS," said Lukhele.

Lukhele warned their customers never to let a stranger touch their card as he may have already seen their PIN and only trying to swap, snatch or steal the card.

He advised them not to be easily distracted when using the ATM, as some individuals do it purposely to steal an ATM card.

"Always cancel your card as soon as possible after it has been lost, stolen or you believe that it has been retained by the ATM. Call your bank for assistance or use your bank's internet or online platform to immediately cancel the card

Never accept help from a stranger. He may say things like telling you the machine is slow and if you punch-in your PIN again it will be faster and in turn copy your PIN.



BE WARNED: EBA Chairperson Zakhele Lukhele.

and make sure you have your cancellation numbers on your phone in order to call immediately you suspect anything on your card," added Lukhele.

For those that will be visiting other countries, Lukhele urged them to make sure their cell-phones are on roaming mode to receive notifications on their accounts and if they suspect their cards have been compromised, change them

immediately and notify their banks of all unknown transactions.

"If called by a 'supplier' ask to speak to your known contacts and do not take instructions from staff at the supplier of known to you," advised Lukhele.


He said bank clients should never act on an

email notifying them of a change in banking details of suppliers without verifying from a known contact.

Concerning scam e-mails, Lukhele said if one receives a scam e-mail, they should not reply but forward a copy of the e-mail to the internet service provider from where the e-mail originated.

"For example: abuse@hotmail.com; abuse@yahoo.com; abuse@compuserve.com, etc. If you have fallen victim, immediately contact the Royal Eswatini Police Service," said Lukhele.

The nation was also advised against using public areas such as internet cafes when doing internet banking, as one may never know what software is loaded that may compromise transactions. He stressed that clients should prevent harmful software such as viruses, spyware and trojans from infecting their PC by having the latest anti-virus applications loaded on their computers and never share passwords and internet banking log in credentials. If one does not know how to use a card safely on the internet or for online purchasing, Lukhele says only make purchases with your credit or debit card on reputable websites that are verified as secure sites. He warned against sending e-mails that contain personal information, including card numbers and expiry dates. "Never save passwords or PINs on your desktop as it may allow others to access your personal information without your permission," said Lukhele. When using cell-phone banking, Lukhele said one has to be careful to rather use a PIN that will be hard to guess and change it often.



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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The general public is informed that the University of Eswatini will close for the Christmas Season on **Friday 13th December 2019 at 12 noon**. It will resume its operations on **Monday 6th January 2020**.

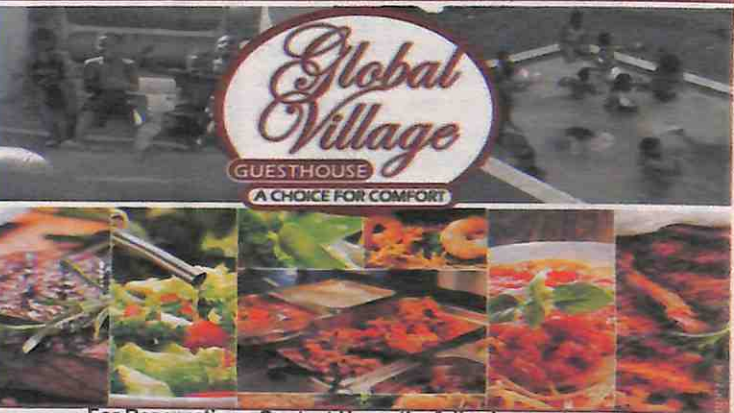
We wish all our stakeholders a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dr. S.S. SIMELANE
REGISTRAR





CHRISTMAS BUFFET LUNCH
13 Years and above - E285.00
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BY NONGCEBO DLAMINI
Manzini

OVER 3 000 textile workers at Fashion International Textile in Matsapha went on strike yesterday over working conditions.

Among the grievances is that they have been banned from carrying hand bags inside the firm, because they are being accused of stealing.

It is said the workers were told that they were

OVER 3 000 TEXTILE WORKERS ON STRIKE

only allowed to bring in 10cm long bags about the size of a money bag. The workers claim

some of them are very sickly and take medication, but that also is not allowed inside the firm.

Some of the workers' handbags confiscated last week and placed in a locked tool house within the premises.

They stated that when they asked for their bags they were told that they would not get them back because they were thieves.

Deducted

Water is also rationed and employees can only drink a certain amount. Their lunch break is 20 minutes and if that time elapses without the worker making it back to work a portion of their salary is deducted.

Another issue was that the workers are not allowed to report sick.

Also if it happens by any chance their children get sick, they are expected to bring them to work as evidence that the child is sick, it is said the employers even hired a nurse to check if indeed they are sick.

It is said a worker once lost her husband and she was told that in order to prove that what

she was saying was true, she had to provide them with all the necessary documents proving such. She was told if the necessary documents were not brought she would lose her job.

Workers are also crying foul that they haven't had a salary review over the past three years, saying they only get paid E800 per month, yet they work tirelessly in order for the firm to be in operation.

Ultimatum

Four hours after the employees engaged on the strike the employers gave them an ultimatum to return to their work stations, or risk getting fired from their jobs.

That statement seemed to anger the textile workers as they were seen evacuating the textile premises and going home as a sign of defiance. They stated that they would not return to work until issues have been resolved.

Efforts to get a comment from the employers proved futile yesterday as the company bosses were reported to have refused to attend to the media.

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **02 January 2020** starting at **10.00am**.

REGION LUBOMBO

1. **MOSES MOTSA**, P. O. Box 13 SITEKI RENEWAL of a **HOTEL** Liquor Licence situated at **PLOT NO.1 SITEKI** known as **SITEKI HOTEL**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

RN173312

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **02 January 2020** starting at **10.00am**.

REGION LUBOMBO

1. **MOSES MOTSA**, P. O. Box 13 SITEKI RENEWAL of a **BOTTLE STORE** Liquor Licence situated at **PLOT NO.1 SITEKI JACARANDA AVENUE STREET**, known as **SITEKI HOTEL BOTTLE STORE**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

RN173312

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licenses Board will hold its sitting to hear the following application/s at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **31 December 2019** starting at **10:00 A.M.**

Region Hhohho

1. **Thelu Investments (Pty) Ltd** P. O. Box 520 Ezulwini renewal of a **Restaurant** Liquor Licence situated at **Plot 502 Betsusile Street Mbabane**. Known as **The Wave Launch Restaurant**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451

RN 173310

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **02 January 2020** starting at **10.00am**.

REGION LUBOMBO

1. **MOSES MOTSA**, P. O. Box 13 SITEKI RENEWAL of a **WINE AND MALT** Liquor Licence situated at **PLOT NO.1 SITEKI JACARANDA AVENUE STREET**, known as **SITEKI HOTEL WINE AND MALT**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

RN173312

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **02 January 2020** starting at **09.00am**.

REGION MANZINI

1. **CILLY GATE INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD**, P. O. Box 14 SITEKI GRANT of a **WHOLESALE** Liquor Licence situated at **KING SOBHUZA II AVENUE, MATSAPHA, LOT 5** known as **DIPLOMATIC DUTY FREE LIQUOR WHOLESALE**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

RN169696

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licenses Board will hold its sitting to hear the following application/s at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **02 January 2020** starting at **09:30 A.M.**

Region Manzini

1. **Michael Chambers Thwala** P. O. Box 209 Mhlambanyatsi Renewal of a **Club** Liquor Licence situated at **Usuthu Golf Club Mhlambanyatsi** Known as **Usuthu Golf Club**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451

RN 173308

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licenses Board will hold its sitting to hear the following application/s at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **01 February 2020** starting at **09:30 A.M.**

Region Lubombo

1. **Margaret Mbali Bennett** P. O. Box 167 Mpaka grant of a **Wine & Malt** Liquor Licence situated at Known as **Maphindis Wine & Malt**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

RN 169699

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licenses Board will hold its sitting to hear the following application/s at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the **31 December 2019** starting at **10:00 A.M.**

Region Hhohho

1. **Thelu Investments (Pty) Ltd** P. O. Box 520 Ezulwini renewal of a **Wine & Malt** Liquor Licence situated at **Plot 502 Betsusile Street Mbabane**. Known as **The Wave Launch Wine & Malt**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451

RN 173310



READ THESE: Placards that were carried by the workers during the strike.

TEACHER HACKED TO DEATH

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI
Manzini

A teacher died tragically after he was hacked with an axe on the head several times by unknown people.

Menzi Nxaba Tsabedze (32) met his death on Tuesday night while at his home at Ntabamhloshana. Tsabedze was a teacher at Sibisisweni High.

Information sourced from those close to the matter was that Tsabedze before he met his death he had been enjoying some alcoholic drinks at a bar at Ngculwini, not very far from his home. While at the bar, Tsabedze had been in the company of a female companion.

The two reportedly enjoyed the night in peace until a group of men showed up at the same bar. Apparently, one of the men was acquainted with the female and when he asked what she was doing with Tsabedze, the teacher jumped in and tried to defend his female companion.

His actions, seemingly, did not please his rival so a physical altercation between the two men

ensued. Unfortunately for Tsabedze, he did not only face his rival but also the other men whom he was with when he got to the drinking spot.

This fight was cut short as other patrons are said to have intervened. As soon as his rivals got away from him, Tsabedze left the bar and drove to his home. Sources said driving from Ngculwini where Tsabedze was to his home is about 10 minutes.

Suspicion was to the effect that the people with whom the teacher was fighting followed him until he got to the gate of his home. When he got out of his car to open the gate, Tsabedze's assailants allegedly pounced on him and hacked him several times with an axe on the head.

On the first strike, Tsabedze is said to have screamed calling for help. A source said he shouted, "inyandzaleyo!" a call that was heard by some of his neighbours.

Subsequently, some of the neighbours reportedly bolted out of their houses and ran towards where the call came from.

To their surprise, the neighbours found the teacher lying on the ground unconscious. By this

time, the assailants were nowhere to be seen, and sources suspected that they did a quick job by killing him and by the time the neighbours heard the call for help, the suspects took off.

The matter was confirmed by Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.

She said details of the matter were still scanty but the police were working around the clock to

ascertain what had happened, and possibly apprehend the culprits responsible. Vilakati said no arrests had been made by the time of going to print.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ESWATINI

HELD AT MBABANE CASE NO.1325/18

In the matter between:
LONDON HENWOOD Plaintiff

And
SIFISO STANLEY DLAMINI Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued in the abovementioned matter, the under mentioned property will be sold by Public Auction by the Deputy Sheriff for the District of Manzini, being a;

1 x TOYOTA KOMBI (SIYAYA) -Stationary
Registration No.: MSD 027 AM
Colour: White
Reserve Price: Without

VENUE: MANZINI MAGISTRATE'S COURT
CAR PARK
DATE: 27th December, 2019
TIME: 11:00 a.m.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned

SILENCE V. GAMEDZE
Deputy Sheriff
Contact 76047217

Doc.20674

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licenses Board will hold its sitting to hear the following application/s at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Conference Room on the 02 January 2020 starting at 09:00 A.M.

Region Manzini

1. Siboniso Mavuso P. O. Box 5669
Mbabane grant of a Bottle Store Liquor Licence situated at Kwaluseni Known as Varsity Corner Bottle Store.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING
BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

FN 1733 16

Businessman Van Zyl defending E1m suit by Professor Whelpton

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
Mbabane

FOLLOWING combined summons that have been filed by South African Professor Frances Whelpton for a E1 million suit against Kenneth Van Zyl, the businessman is defending the action.

Van Zyl, a Liswati businessman, has filed a notice to defend the action in the High Court of South Africa, Northern Cape Division, in Kimberly.

According to Van Zyl, in his papers dated December 10, the notice is to defend and supply an address for service and notices and documents to be filed by the plaintiff (Whelpton) in as far as the present application is concerned.

Van Zyl is defending the E1 million suit and has submitted that all the contents he deposed to the affidavit the plaintiff is complaining about are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.

According to the papers filed by Van Zyl, the defendant (Van Zyl) in the said matter hereby gives a notice to defend the action and further advises the defendant gives notice of all and any notices or documents that they can be delivered through Nataile Baker, 52A Hercules Street, Herler, Kimberly Northern Cape.

The notice to defend comes following a matter involving Whelpton and Van Zyl currently dealt with by Eswatini High Court, where Whelpton is now suing E1 million for defamation in the South African Court.

This, is after Whelpton accuses Van Zyl of filing a defamatory affidavit regarding the former University of South Africa (UNISA) professor.

The lawsuit emanates from a High Court of Eswatini case number 1522/2019 where the defendant deposed an affidavit where he allegedly made defamatory allegations against the plaintiff (Whelpton).

In the affidavit filed by Van Zyl, various let-

ters which have their origin from the then minister for natural resources and energy, Princess Tsandzile and the previous minister in the same ministry, Jabulile Mashwama were alleged to have been fraudulent according to the affidavit deposed by Van Zyl.

According to Whelpton in his particulars of claim, on or about September 2019 defendant deposed to an affidavit concerning him in the local court case.

Whelpton submitted that by issuing the application in that case, the contents of the founding affidavit became public knowledge and was the cause of widespread publication in local newspapers in Eswatini.

"In addition to the content of the affidavit having been published in the local media, the document was also delivered to, inter alia, Rupert Roland Swanepoel, Harold Wilson and functionaries of Consulmet Metals (Pty) Limited, Ivora Asset Management (Pty) limited, New Era Mining and Tfitikisa Services. The defendant at all times knew that this would happen," submitted Whelpton.

He informed the South African court that the affidavit deposed by the defendant referring to him as plaintiff is both false and defamatory to him as plaintiff much to the knowledge of the defendant.

He stated that various letters which have their origin from the former Eswatini natural resources and energy ministers were purported by the defendant to be fraudulent, thereby implicating him (plaintiff) that he was taking part in forgery and the publication of fraudulent correspondence.

The contents of the affidavit filed by the defendant also refers to 'scams' and 'fraud' allegedly perpetrated by the plaintiff, and Whelpton submitted that averments thereof are wrongful and defamatory of the plaintiff and were made maliciously with the intention to defame him as plaintiff.

Van Zyl is defending the E1 million suit and has submitted that all the contents he deposed to the affidavit the plaintiff is complaining about are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.



Eswatini (Pty) Ltd

Employment Opportunity

Seize the opportunity to become part of an innovative internationally recognised company within the food industry!

VACANCY - MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

RFG Eswatini (PTY) LTD a subsidiary of Rhodes Food Group is looking for dynamic and proactive individual to fill the position of Management Accountant reporting to the Finance Manager.

Main Responsibilities

The main responsibilities for this position include the following:

- Preparation of product costings for new and existing product range
- Analyse monthly production variances
- Preparation and distribution of daily production reports and liaise with departmental managers on variances
- Extraction of statistical information for internal and external stakeholders
- Assist in the preparation of budgets and quarterly forecasts
- Expense and variance analysis for costs centre for monthly management meetings
- Monthly review of creditors reconciliations

Qualifications

The ideal candidate should have the following qualifications:

- BCom (Accounting) or equivalent
- At least four (4) years' experience in cost accounting environment
- Must have experience in a middle management role
- Served Articles with major auditing firm will be an added advantage
- Flair for costing and analysis is essential

Interested candidates should forward their Application letters together with their CV plus certified copies of their academic qualifications to the Human Resources Manager P.O. Box 77 Malkerns or to email recruitmentsfc@rfg.com by close of business on the 20th December 2019

NB: ONLY SHORT LISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED

DOC:20944

PRESS STATEMENT

**RE-REPORT ON PAGE 6 TIMES OF
ESWATINI DATED 11TH DECEMBER 2019**

The order in court refers to the seven residents who are respondents in the matter are Josephinah Magagula, Mabhaca Magagula, Dumisa Magagula, Philip Magagula, Tindlebe Magagula, Michael Magagula and Lulu Mercy Johnston and none other. I take exception to none truths and facts and reserve my rights.

BY TOMMY KIRK

DOC.20290

8

National News

Eswatini Observer Thursday December 12, 2019

Taiwan Power Company to help EEC set-up thermal power plant

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI
Mbabane

ESWATINI Electricity Company (EEC) has signed a 10-month contract with Taiwan Power Company (TPC) to conduct a feasibility study towards the establishment of a coal fired thermal power plant at Lubhuku.

The signing of the contract with TPC was done on October 28, in the presence of Minister for Natural Resources and Energy Peter Bhembé, Taiwan Ambassador to Eswatini Jeremy Liang, the Taiwan Electrical and Mechanical Services (TEMES) and other high ranking government officials in the ministry of natural resources and energy.

The Taiwan Power Company is a state-owned electric power industry providing electricity to Taiwan and off-shore islands of the Republic of China on Taiwan.

With the contract, TPC is to provide technical services through the feasibility study which forms part of the Bilateral Cooperation Agreement in Energy and Mineral Resources between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Kingdom of Eswatini.

The agreement seeks to provide technical assistance in generation expansion and transmission reinforcement projects so as to accelerate the economic



HELPING: Minister for Natural Resources and Energy Peter Bhembé, EEC Managing Director Meshack Kunene, Taiwan Power Company's Director Ben Wu and the Taiwan Ambassador Jeremy Liang after the contract signing ceremony.

development of the Kingdom of Eswatini.

According to EEC Managing Director Meshack Kunene, the outcome of the feasibility study will assist EEC to decide if the project is a viable proposition to pursue and procure.

"The study will also assist EEC meet requirements for bankable feasibility studies of commercial lending institutions and development financing institutions," Kunene said.

The signing of the contract preceded other meetings and site visits between the Taiwan team and officials from EEC and the ministry of natural resources and

energy from October 28 to 1st November.

According to Kunene, the meetings were to discuss the data requirements as well as gather additional information in preparation for the project kick-off in December.

Part of the teams involved in the site meetings were stakeholders from the Eswatini Civil and Aviation Authority (ESWCAA), Eswatini National Trust Commission (ENTC) and Eswatini Environment Authority (EEA).

Site visits were made to Lubhuku, Mpaka, Lubovane Dam, Mnjoli Dam, KaLanga, and Hhelehehe substations.



Public Service Pensions Fund

P.O. BOX 4469, MBABANE | Tel: 2411 9000 / Fax: 2404 2712 | TOLL FREE: 800 2401
email: info@pspf.co.sz | www.pspf.co.sz
/PSPFSwaziland7 @PSPF_Swaziland

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY CLOSURE

Public Service Pensions Fund would like to inform its members and the public that its Offices shall be closed on **Friday 13 December 2019** at 1:00pm. The Office will re-open on **Monday 16 December 2019** at 8am.

Any inconvenience caused due to this early closing is highly regretted.

SATISO SEKUVALA

Lihhovisi leMhlala Phansi litsandza kwatisa sive nemalunga onkhe kutsi lihhovisi litawuvala nga 1:00 emini ngale **Sihlanu** mhlaka **13 Ingongoni 2019**. Lihhovisi litawuvulwa ngalokwejwayelekile nge **Msombuluko 16 Ingongoni 2019** nga 8 ekuseni.

Sitsandza kucolisa ngako konkhe kuphatamiseka lokutobangelwa ngulokuvalwa kwelihhovisi.

DOC.20338



ENJOY A MALARIA-FREE VISIT

Remember to take malaria
prevention tablets

Visit the nearest
health facility **2 weeks**
before travelling to a
malarious area




World Health
Organization



NMP
Let's unite and prevent malaria.

ESWATINI MOBILE KEEPS THEM WINNING

BY DELISA THWALA
Mbabane

ANOTHER day another bunch of winners.

Eswatini Mobile continued to give away mobile phones to winners of the 'Guess the price' competition.

So far, Eswatini Mobile has given away 10 Samsung Note 10 phones to those who guessed the price correctly or nearest the actual price.

The excited customers said they were happy and humbled with their wins, adding they were already feeling the festive season mood.

As cliché as it may sound, the winners all said they did not expect to win and that Christmas has come early for them.

The 'Guess the price' competition is still ongoing as it commenced on December 1.

Delivered

The winner's phones are delivered to them by Eswatini Mobile Marketing Manager Khulile Dlamini who said they were very happy with the ongoing competition and the way their customers were responding.

Eswatini Mobile Communications Officer Nosipho Shongwe said rumours and allegations that only their friends and relatives were winning in the competition were false.

"We are highly excited with the stage of the competition now, and whatever rumours that only our friends are winning are very much



WINNING SMILE: Themba Dlamini sharing a light moment with Eswatini Mobile's Khulile Dlamini after winning the Samsung Note 10.



ALL YOURS: Petros Vilane accepting his prize from Dlamini after winning his Samsung Note 10.



WIN: Andile Matsenjwa gestures as she receives her Samsung Note 10.

untrue," said Shongwe.

In addition, she said this was a vigorous and highly transparent competition where anyone is allowed to join and play.

Cellphones that one could win are the Huawei, iPhone and Samsung which are all high-end smartphones.

The competition is open to anyone who has

an Eswatini Mobile SIM card and is 18 years and older.

The 'Guess the Price' competition officially ends on December 31.

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WEEKEND DEAL
13 - 15 DECEMBER 2019

WWW.RUSSELLS.CO.ZA

Girl dies mysteriously in Manzana

BY DELISA THWALA
Mbabane

A dark cloud has befallen a Maziya family in Manzana after their five-year-old toddler died under a mysterious cloud.

Okuhle Maziya lost her young life while playing in the comfort of her parental home and her lifeless body was discovered by her aunt.

Relating events that led to the death, the deceased's aunt Phephile said she had gone to town to run some errands when upon coming back, found her niece stone cold.

She accused her sister-in-law of being careless by leaving the child alone in the house after she (aunt) had left.

"This was clear carelessness from my sister-in-law. How could a child be left alone in such a way? No one knows what caused her death," she complained.

A visibly emotional Maziya said what worries them the most as a family, is that this is not the first time the family loses one of its mem-

bers in such a manner.

A month ago, her brother also died under a mysterious cloud, noting that the latest death is that of Okuhle.

The mother to the dead child could not contain herself when sought for comment as she merely broke down, but stated that she was deeply hurt by the death of her daughter, expressing her concern that the family is now fingering her as being careless.

Playing

When asked where she was when the child died, she explained that she had gone to the nearby shops and had left the deceased playing. She did not take long and deemed it not necessary to go with the child.

It was upon her arrival that she discovered that her child was no more, with members of the family wailing within the yard.

A medical practitioner who examined the child after the death stated that it could only be determined after the post-mortem has been conducted as to what the cause of death was, according to the deceased's aunt.

Man convicted for killing gogo on suspicion of witchcraft

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
High Court

A man who killed his grandmother on suspicions of witchcraft has been convicted by the High Court.

This, after the court observed that he had direct intention to kill the old woman by inflicting a fatal blow on her head with an iron rod. Vusi Ernest Shabangu was convicted by High Court Judge Nkululeko Hlophe who observed that the convict did not have a *dolus directus* when committing the offence, but only had a *dolus eventualis*.

Judge Hlophe in his judgment said the accused person was raised by his grandmother, however, he started experiencing animosity towards her and his uncle's wife, which changed his perception towards her.

From the evidence brought before court, Justice Hlophe observed that there was nothing to suggest that the murder was pre-meditated. In mitigation, the accused told the court that after he moved from his maternal grandmother's home to his paternal homestead, she followed him after a few years.



Judge Hlophe further recalled Shabangu stating that with his grandmother again living under the same roof as he was, he claimed to experience horrible dreams and became extremely sick, leading him to believe that his grandmother had bewitched him.

Reason

"However, the accused cannot provide the court with such a watered down reason for having killed his grandmother. Even a visit he claimed to have made to a traditional healer, who told him that his grandmother was a problem, could not be a reason for him to decide to kill her in the manner that he did.

There was no merit in that he had no intention to kill his grandmother, as the one blow to her head with an iron rod was the

fatal one which led to her demise," Justice Hlophe stated.

Shabangu allegedly killed his grandmother Boshiwe Ntshangase with one fatal blow to the head with an iron rod. He was then said to have proceeded to assault his mother Thandi Shabangu with the same weapon, causing serious injuries to her arms. As described by the prosecution's witnesses, the iron rod was at least one metre in length and of a diameter of 2.5 centimetres.

According to the medical report submitted before the court, Ntshangase reportedly succumbed to death two weeks after the incident, following the fatal wound by Shabangu.

After convicting him, Justice Hlophe postponed Shabangu's sentencing to March 10, 2020.



Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)
Smallholder Market-Led Project (SMLP)

Position: Procurement Officer

Objective: To ensure achievement of result oriented outcomes in the SMLP procurement

Output: Systematic procurement, contract management and related reports

Activities

- Substantially participate and contribute to the project's Financial Planning through the AWPB.

The responsibilities will include:

- As part of the PIU management team, and in collaboration with the National Project Manager and M&E officer, participate fully in the formulation AWPBs, particularly the inputs for the Procurement Plan.
- Thereafter consolidate the Project Procurement Plan and ensure that the activities and outputs are consistent and in harmony with the underlying Project's Annual Work Plan and Budget.
- Initiate the Subsequent revisions and updates of Procurement plan.
- Once the plan is approved and no later than 30 June of each year, and consultation and agreement with the Component heads develop specifications for each of the activity forming the Procurement plan;
- Once the plan is approved and no later than 30 June of each year, and in consultation and agreement with the Component heads affirm the procurement method that is appropriate for each of the activity in the Procurement plan.
- Where the PIU has no in house capacity to develop specifications and bids for activities in the Procurement plan, source in a timely manner an appropriate TA for developing the bids/ and or the specifications.
- Prepare a Procurement progress report at the end of month and no later than 2nd Tuesday of the following month, for submission to the National Programme Coordinator and the CEO ESWADE for the monthly review meeting.
- Submit requests for NO objection to IFAD through the Nation Project Coordinator
- Advertise in a timely manner the bids for Procurement consistently with the milestones in the Procurement plan.
- Organize meetings for Bids opening and tenders evaluations and maintain clear record of minutes of the proceedings decisions and agreed actions.
- Communicate in writing the tender awards.
- Organize the contracts signing processes.
- Convene Procurement and Contract Management Committee review meetings.
- Approve payments to suppliers, service providers and contractors.
- In consultation with the Programme Accountant maintain Contract Monitoring form.
- Maintain an updated contract register
- The Procurement Officer will use his/her professional experience, skills, and capabilities to diligently and proactively assist members of the PIU, SWADE and other implementing agents, in ensuring that the project procurement activities are implemented in accordance with the covenants of the Loan Agreement, project design, GoS Financial regulations, IFAD guidelines, as well as in accordance with other laid down procedures in the Procurement and Contract Management Guidelines.

Qualifications:

- Degree in Supply Chain Management, procurement and Inventory Management or Business related field;
- Three years' experience in various aspect of procurement;
- CIPS qualification will be an added advantage.
- Working knowledge of GoS financial procedures and of procedures for international financing institutions, preferably IFAD
- Ability to perform in a team

Written applications and detailed resume should be emailed to: recruitment@eswade.co.sz before 1645hrs on Tuesday, 17th December, 2019. Please ensure that subject line on emailed applications details position applied for as advertised. e.g. Procurement Officer

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Should you not be contacted within 21days of the deadline, please consider your application unsuccessful.



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
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DOC20968



Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)

Vacancy - Internal Auditor

ESWADE is a Government parastatal tasked with using water to stimulate economic development in rural areas through commercialization agriculture. The position of Internal Auditor has become vacant in the organization and is tenable at Mbabane (Head Office).

Overview

The Internal Auditor is responsible for planning, executing and reporting on operational, financial, and regulatory and compliance related audits/reviews of the organization.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Draft the Internal Audit Charter of the organization in line with the international standards.
- Develop risk-based annual audit plans detailing the scope, nature and timing of audit activities.
- Design internal audit procedures and work programs.
- Advise management on the resourcing requirements for the Internal Audit function, including any potential outsourcing arrangements.
- Conduct internal audits to assess the adequacy, effectiveness and efficiency of the established internal controls and procedures.
- Identify key areas of risk within the organization and propose appropriate controls to mitigate the risks.
- Review the accuracy, timeliness and relevance of financial information and other disclosures provided to management.
- Discuss audit findings and recommendations with line managers and report significant issues to senior management.
- Prepare audit reports in line with the approved audit plan.
- Monitor the timely implementation of the management actions recommended in the audit reports.
- Provide senior management and the Board of Auditors with an opinion on the adequacy, effectiveness and efficiency of the internal controls in the organization.
- Conduct ad-hoc investigations and reviews as requested by senior management or the Board of Auditors.
- Participate in the Audit Committee meetings.
- Liaise with the external auditor on internal control issues.
- Report on internal control issues and the implementation of the internal audit plan to senior management and the Audit Committee.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATION, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

Minimum:

- B Com in Accounting or B Com Internal Auditing or equivalent
- Internal audit, COSO, internal controls, compliance and risk management knowledge
- Audit techniques (work programs, tests, sampling, documentation, reports)
- IT MS Office (Word, PowerPoint, advanced Excel)

Advantageous:

- Internationally Recognized Professional Accounting or Auditing certification, such as CPA/ CIA/ACCA/CIS etc. (desirable)
- Articles
- IIA membership

Professional Experience Required:

Minimum:

- At least 3 years Internal Audit or Internal Control function experience in an international financial institution, financial services sector or professional accounting firm with additional 2 years supervisory experience

Advantageous:

- 5+ years Internal auditing experience with additional 2 years supervisory experience
- Excellent understanding of the standards of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and ability to fully comply with IIA standards.

Applications:

Written applications and detailed resume should be emailed to: recruitment@eswade.co.sz before 1645hrs on Tuesday, 17th December, 2019. Please ensure that subject line on emailed applications details position applied for as advertised. e.g. Internal Auditor

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Should you not be contacted within 21days of the deadline, please consider your application unsuccessful.

DOC20968



USAID | SOUTHERN AFRICA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

REF No.: 674-20-1004

Position: Project Management Assistant

Open To: All Eswatini citizens and Eswatini permanent residence permit holders

Location: US Embassy Mbabane
USAID Office
Ezulwini, Eswatini

Opening: December 05, 2019
Closing: January 10, 2020

Salary Range: FSN-08: SZL 242,075.00 – SZL 363,086.00

(Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value)
Additional benefits include medical and pension fund subsidy.
USAID/Eswatini, an equal opportunity employer, seeks applicants for the above position:

Basic Function of the Position:

The purpose of this position is to support the country-based USAID/Eswatini staff within the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) office to achieve its program targets, goals and objectives. S/he supports program administration and management, including project and report tracking, coordination of meetings and TDYs, procurement, and various other responsibilities that support the functioning of the USAID team in Eswatini. The job holder must have excellent written and oral English and SiSwati communication skills. S/he must have a general understanding of USAID programs. S/he must possess superior organizational skills and the capability to ensure the smooth functioning of USAID/Eswatini's operations in a fast-paced PEPFAR environment. This position will be supervised by the Deputy USAID Country Director, and will be located within the PEPFAR office at the U.S. Embassy Mbabane (Ezulwini), Eswatini.

Major Roles and Responsibilities:

- The incumbent is responsible for providing day-to-day administrative support to USAID Eswatini, ensuring that all administrative tasks are dealt with in a timely and professional manner. S/he is responsible for the smooth operation of the USAID Eswatini office.
- The incumbent maintains an overall calendar of events, key appointments and deadlines for the USAID Eswatini team. S/he schedules appointments, makes administrative arrangements for meetings, schedules conference room space, coordinates telephone and conference call requests.
- S/he participates in routine management meetings with implementing partners, and meetings with host country counterparts, and follows up on progress made. S/he participates in and takes notes during weekly calls with the Regional HIV/AIDS Program (RHAP) at USAID South Africa.

Minimum Qualifications Required for this position:

Completion of High School and two years of college studies in administrative, business management or closely related field required.

Compensation:

The Project Management Assistant will be compensated in accordance with the U.S. Mission to Eswatini's Local Compensation Plan (LCP).

To Apply:

Full position description is available on USAID.pnet.co.za

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Applicants who do not follow the application instructions may be dropped from further consideration.

REF No.: 674-20-1006

Position: Project Management Specialist – Strategic Information

Open To: All Eswatini citizens and Eswatini permanent residence permit holders

Location: US Embassy Mbabane
USAID Office
Ezulwini, Eswatini

Opening: December 05, 2019
Closing: January 10, 2020

Salary Range: FSN-11: SZL 440,993.00 – SZL 661,488.00
(Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value)
Additional benefits include medical and pension fund subsidy

USAID/Eswatini, an equal opportunity employer, seeks applicants for the above position:

Basic Function of the Position:

The USAID Project Management Specialist: Strategic Information (SI Specialist) will play a critical leadership role in two areas that are key to achieving, measuring and documenting progress towards control of the HIV epidemic. The incumbent will 1) provide technical and managerial leadership in monitoring and evaluating all components of the USAID/PEPFAR funded portfolio, and 2) support local partner transition through mentoring and advising M&E units in local partners including key government ministries and other local institutions on building sustainable data collection and analysis systems.

S/he will represent USAID/Eswatini and PEPFAR at technical, policy, and strategic planning meetings with the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini (GoKE), other donors, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders. S/he reports to the Senior Strategic Information Advisor in the USAID PEPFAR Office in Eswatini.

The incumbent will play an instrumental role in strengthening local ownership of the response through using influence and collaboration with the GoKE to hold PEPFAR partners accountable to local authorities at chiefdom, tinkhundla, regional and national levels.

Major Roles and Responsibilities:

- The SI Specialist will ensure that USAID's implementing partners and stakeholders employ sound data management and analysis techniques. S/he will apply data gathering and visualization techniques to enable the USG, GoKE, IPs and other stakeholders to monitor progress and evaluate the impact and reach of USAID's work.
- The SI Specialist will be USAID's lead manager of the PEPFAR mandated Site Improvement Management System (SIMS), requiring development of annual and monthly SIMS plans, coordination of SIMS site visits, overseeing data entry into the SIMS online platform and in coordination with activity managers/AORs ensure that implementers take remedial action as required.
- The SI Specialist will generate program results reports for the USAID team as per agency and PEPFAR schedules (weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual).

Minimum Qualifications Required for this position:

Master's degree in biostatistics, computer science, statistics, epidemiology, demography, public health, or other equivalent job-related field is required.

Compensation:

The Project Management Specialist – Strategic Information will be compensated in accordance with the U.S. Mission to Eswatini's Local Compensation Plan (LCP).

To Apply:

Full position description is available on USAID.pnet.co.za

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Applicants who do not follow the application instructions may be dropped from further consideration.

REF No.: 674-20-1005

Position: Project Management Specialist – Public Health

Open To: All Eswatini citizens and Eswatini permanent residence permit holders

Location: US Embassy Mbabane
USAID Office
Ezulwini, Eswatini

Opening: December 05, 2019
Closing: January 10, 2020

Salary Range: FSN-12: SZL 576,178.00 – SZL 864,290.00

(Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value)
Additional benefits include medical and pension fund subsidy

USAID/Eswatini, an equal opportunity employer, seeks applicants for the above position:

Basic Function of the Position:

The Public Health Specialist serves as technical expert on clinical HIV treatment, care and prevention programs, including strategic planning, program and activity design, budgeting, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. The Public Health Specialist supports a coordinated, strategic approach to HIV clinical programming for HIV and TB treatment and prevention and advises on health systems strengthening, especially regarding pharmaceutical and commodity quantification, procurement and supply chain management.

The Public Health Specialist assists in administering USAID/Eswatini's activities under the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the U.S. Government's (USG)'s annual Country Operational Plan (COP). S/he provides full Contracting Officer's Representative/Agreement Officer's Representative (COR/AOR) oversight and direction to programs conducted by Implementing Partners (IPs) under Contract, Cooperative Agreement, and/or Grant.

S/he represents USAID/Eswatini and PEPFAR at technical, policy, and strategic planning meetings with the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini (GoKE), other donors, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders. S/he reports to the Senior Clinical Advisor in the USAID PEPFAR Office in Eswatini. This is a nonsupervisory position.

Major Roles and Responsibilities:

- The incumbent provides technical leadership in the design, implementation and evaluation of USAID/Eswatini's comprehensive HIV clinical prevention, treatment and care program to USAID staff, the wider interagency PEPFAR team, implementing partners and to the Ministry of Health and other line ministries. H/she provides guidance to USAID implementing partners on newly emerging and highly efficacious approaches to HIV/AIDS care, treatment and prevention program implementation.
- S/he is the technical lead for supply chain management, advising USG, implementers and Ministry of Health on strategic approaches

and best practices to promote commodity security, including forecasting, procurement, storage and distribution.

- The job holder maintains state-of-the-art familiarity with relevant research, technical and management issues affecting the design, implementation and evaluation of HIV interventions and mobile clinical HIV services.

Minimum Qualifications Required for this position:

A Medical Degree is required for this position.

Compensation:

The Project Management Specialist – Public Health will be compensated in accordance with the U.S. Mission to Eswatini's Local Compensation Plan (LCP).

To Apply:

Full position description is available on USAID.pnet.co.za

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Applicants who do not follow the application instructions may be dropped from further consideration.

REF No.: 674-20-1003

Position: Project Management Specialist – Adolescent Girls and Young Woman/Orphans and other vulnerable children (AGYW/OVC)

Open To: All Eswatini citizens and Eswatini permanent residence permit holders

Location: US Embassy Mbabane
USAID Office
Ezulwini, Eswatini

Opening: December 05, 2019
Closing: January 10, 2020

Salary Range: FSN-12: SZL 576,178.00 – SZL 864,290.00

(Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value)
Additional benefits include medical and pension fund subsidy

USAID/Eswatini, an equal opportunity employer, seeks applicants for the above position:

Basic Function of the Position:

The Project Management Specialist: Adolescent Girls and Young Women/Orphans and other vulnerable children (PMS: AGYW/OVC) will assume a leading role in the design, management and coordination of USAID/Eswatini's OVC and DREAMS portfolios. The incumbent's primary tasks include (1) providing technical guidance on OVC and AGYW (DREAMS) programming to USAID, (2) managing and coordinating the OVC and DREAMS programs and (3) leading USAID's efforts for localization of key portfolio components in supporting local partners with technical and institutional capacity building. The AGYW/OVC PMS will provide full Contracting Officer's Representative/Agreement Officer's Representative (COR/AOR) oversight and direction to programs conducted by Implementing Partners (IPs) under contracts, cooperative agreement, and/or grants. S/he routinely represents USAID in discussions with IPs and host government. S/he represents USAID and/or the interagency PEPFAR team in working level meetings and makes presentations on behalf of the agency and/or PEPFAR. The incumbent advises USAID Eswatini on the implications of political and social developments on the USAID portfolios for children and AGYW. S/he identifies opportunities for USG engagement and effective collaboration and coordination with the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini (GoKE), the private sector, local organizations (including faith-based) and civil society, and other development partners. The position reports to the Deputy Director.

Major Roles and Responsibilities:

- The incumbent will provide technical leadership in the strategic planning, activity design, coordination, implementation and monitoring of DREAMS and OVC activities.
- S/he will provide oversight and guidance for the DREAMS and OVC portfolio and the PEPFAR team concerning best practices, new developments and lessons learnt that should be incorporated into USAID programs.
- S/he will review DREAMS approaches and tools to ensure they meet guidance provided by the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (S/GAC); s/he will guide implementers in the annual review of DREAMS layered activities and optimization of reaching the most vulnerable AGYW.
- S/he will draft technical documentation and analyses required for the annual Country Operational Plan (COP) and for quarterly results reporting to S/GAC. S/he tracks budget execution for OVC and DREAMS.

Minimum Qualifications Required for this position:

Required: Bachelor's Degree in Social Sciences, Social Work, Public Health, Education, International Development, or other closely related field.

Compensation:

The Project Management Specialist – AGYW/OVC will be compensated in accordance with the U.S. Mission to Eswatini's Local Compensation Plan (LCP).

To Apply:
Full position descriptions are available on USAID.pnet.co.za

All interested and eligible candidates should visit USAID.pnet.co.za to apply for these positions. Applicants with P-net accounts can log-in from the above website to apply and first-time users will be required to register on the site before they can apply.

For an application to be considered complete, please include a high-quality cover letter, explaining why you

are qualified for the position and a CV of no more than 4 pages. Failure to comply with these instructions may result in your application being considered "non-responsive" and eliminated from further consideration.

Offers must be received by the closing date and time specified in Section I.

To ensure consideration of offers for the intended position, Offers must prominently reference the Solicitation number in the offer submission.

The U.S. Mission in South Africa provides opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status or sexual orientation. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) also strives to ensure equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Applicants who do not follow the application instructions may be dropped from further consideration.

'Research and development crucial in developing economy'

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

MINISTRY of Information Communication and Technology (ICT) Acting Principal Secretary Ntombifuthi Sukati says research and development is vital in developing Eswatini's economy.

Sukati said for the country to develop its economy and uplift the living standard of its citizens and be competitive in global economy, it needs to develop science, technology and innovation (STI) policy regime that are evidence based.

Speaking during the official launch of the survey on research, development and innovation workshop at Royal Swaziland Technology Park at Phocweni, Sukati said the focus of the workshop will be based on the country's regional and country convictions which state that research, science, technology and innovation can play a major role in achieving sustainable socio-economic development.

The launch was graced by stakeholders and consultant meeting and training for the pilot survey on economic sub-sectors innovation performance measurements.

She added that previously the country has been concentrating on strength-



WORKING TOGETHER: Participants of the Integrated Data System For Economic Sub-Sector Innovation Performance Measurement held at the RSTP pose for a group photo during the official opening yesterday. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

ening resourced based economy and reviving the economy.

Sukati added that as a ministry and stakeholders they want to get it right by ensuring that it is sustainable and knowledge based hence they are training the data capturers who will be conducting the survey.

Furthermore, Sukati said the meeting came at a time when the ministry was assisted to develop the STI strategy which is in line with the NDP and that at the end on the meeting they will come up with evidence based decision mak-

ing process for science technology and innovation.

Directions

"Discussions shall serve as live platforms for directions and reforms and they should lead to decisions since science and technology and innovation are catalysts for economic growth therefore collaborative efforts are a necessity," she said.

The acting PS thanked the African Union Development Agency for supporting the workshop and also appreciated the ministry of economic plan-



AT IT: A section of the attendees busy with the research on the computers.

ning, RSTP and ESEPARC for their remarkable support.

Others who were at the workshop included delegates from the African Development Agency (ADA) which was led by Dr Tichaona Mangwende, Department of Central Statistics, experts from institutions of higher learning and officials from institutes of higher learning.

Also speaking at the function was Mangwende who stated that the workshop was aimed at training the data capturers in order to utilise and extract valuable data.

He added that the data comes from all the systems which are most important sectors of the economy.

"Data needs to be collected to a form that is useful and be used in

a way that we can get maximum value," he said.

He explained that the importance of data and the real source of value was in people getting adequate training.

"The sources and resources of data are very important, therefore, it is important to pay attention at various points of valuable extremes."

He added that with the support of the ministry of ICT and RSTP they were almost at the early stage where they would release the data.

He added by saying he believed at the end of the workshop they would have a clear meaning of what the data collected means to the economic sub-sectors innovation measurement of the country.

World Vision

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

World Vision International is a Christian relief and development child focused organization, as an organization we seek to improve the quality of life of children and the communities in which they live through promotion of sustainable development projects. World Vision Eswatini Office has the following vacancy and applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates

IT MANAGER

The IT Manager role is responsible for supporting and maintaining global IT processes and standards within their Hub (South Africa, Lesotho & Eswatini). Individuals in this role manage services provided to two or more field office locations within a region.

Qualification & Work Experience Requirements:

1. Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Information Systems, or other related field. Or equivalent work experience.
2. Requires experience in supervising and building relationships with people at a variety of levels.
3. Typically has 5 to 7 years of relevant IT and business work experience.
4. Requires demonstrated ability to launch and deliver a single IT project on time and within budget.

Willingness and ability to travel domestically and internationally, as necessary.

Working Environment / Conditions:

- The position requires ability and willingness to travel domestically and internationally

Application Procedure & Deadline

All applications must be done electronically to World Vision careers website not later than 13 December, 2019. Please note that late applications will not be considered.

Refer to the following link for full job details and posting of your application:

<https://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-Swaziland>

NOTE: Applicants are advised that if they do not receive any correspondence from World Vision Eswatini by Friday 31 December, 2019, they should consider their applications unsuccessful.

Email: wvi@tip-offs.com

800-3800



ZERO TOLERANCE TO CORRUPTION



ESRIC



THE ESWATINI ROYAL INSURANCE CORPORATION (ESRIC) ADVISES ITS VALUED CUSTOMERS AND THE PUBLIC THAT IT SHALL CLOSE BUSINESS AT 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY THE 13th DECEMBER 2019 AND SHALL RESUME BUSINESS ON MONDAY THE 16th DECEMBER 2019 AT 08:00 HOURS.

BY MANAGEMENT

MBABANE HEAD OFFICE

Instila House
Somkhile Road, Mbabane
T: (+268) 2408 1600
E: info@esric.sz
F: (+268) 2404 6415
P.O. BOX 917 Mbabane

MANZINI BRANCH

ESRIC House, 2nd Floor,
Mhlaba Street, Manzini
T: (+268) 2408 1600
E: ManziniBranch@esric.sz
F: (+268) 2505 5037
P.O. BOX 2592 Manzini

NHLANGANO BRANCH

ESRIC Regional Office,
Velemphe Street, Nhlanguano
T: (+268) 2439 1600
E: nhlanguanobranch@esric.sz

www.esric.co.sz

Ngwenya Border to open 24 hours for three days

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO
Mbabane

THE ministry of home affairs, along with other border law enforcement agencies have finalised logistics and working schedules for all ports of entry, exit this festive season.

Principal Secretary in the ministry Nhlanhla Nxumalo informed the public that the ports of entry in the Kingdom of Eswatini will operate under extended hours during the festive season.

According to Nxumalo the extension will commence December 19. The PS said this will help navigate the period of heightened movement across South Africa's ports, done in the interest of all travellers.

"The borders with high volumes of movement will have their operating hours increased. This means that the ports of entries will operate for 24 hours on some dates during this period," said the PS.

Nxumalo added said the ministry understands that during such times there is an increase in travellers' movement leaving and entering Eswatini hence additional staff and fully equipped mobile offices will be availed especially at the Ngwenya Border Post to ensure efficient service delivery.

"People will not have to wait longer than expected through the checkpoint. Our goal is to provide excellent customer service delivery in a corrupt free environment.

Part of the delivery is minimising delays at crossings and undocumented travellers as well as those possessing fraudulent documents," said Nxumalo.

The PS further urged travellers to plan accordingly and check documents timeously to avoid unnecessary delays at ports.

Nxumalo asked the nation to please note that all other border posts which do not appear in the extension list will operate normally.

The Swaziland Revenue Services (SRA) Director Communications Vusi Dlamini said that their busiest month is November.

He said festive season for them is a normal month as consumers have already bought their goods preparing for the December shopping frenzy.

He said the immigrations departments are the ones that are mostly busy during the festive season so they will not be affected in this regard.

...as operational times adjusted for festive season

PORTS OF ENTRY	FESTIVE SEASON OPERATIONAL HOURS				
Ngwenya	19/12/2019 24hours	20/12/2019 24hours	21/12/2019 2400hours	22/12/2019 Normal hours	25/12/2019 Normal hours
Mahamba	20/12/2019 0700hours-Midnight	Normal hours	Normal hours	24/12/2019 0700hours-Midnight	25/12/2019 Normal hours
Matsamo	20/12/2019 0700hours-Midnight	21/12/2019 0700hours-2200hours	22/12/2019 0700hours-2200hours	23/12/2019 Normal hours	24/12/2019 Normal hours
Mananga	21/12/2019 0700hours-2000hours	22/12/2019 0700hours-2000hours	23/12/2019 0700hours-2000hours	24/12/2019 0700hours-2000hours	25/12/2019 Normal hours

STRATEGIES *For* FINISHING STRONG Gathering
THURSDAY 12TH - SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2019

APOSTLE EMMANUEL MIGHT (FROM EUROPE) **HOSTS APOSTLE JUSTICE** **APOSTLE WAYNE SINGH** (FROM SOUTH AFRICA)

THURSDAY 12TH, & FRIDAY 13TH @ 6PM
SATURDAY 14TH @ 10AM; 2PM & 7PM
SUPER SUNDAY SERVICE - 10AM

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Eswatini Development Finance Corporation
(Incorporated in the Kingdom of Eswatini)
(Registration number 954 of 2003)
("FINCORP")

E300, 000,000

Medium Term Note Programme

Abridged Programme Memorandum

The Eswatini Stock Exchange ("ESE") has granted a listing to the Eswatini Development Finance Corporation ("FINCORP") Medium Term Note Programme ("Programme") with effect from 17 November 2019. The authorized size of the Programme is E300 million which will be drawn down within 24 months. The Notes will be denominated in Emalangeni and will not be subject to any maximum maturity but will have a minimum maturity of one month. The maximum aggregate Nominal Amount of Notes outstanding from time to time will not exceed the equivalent of three hundred million Emalangeni [E300, 000,000].

The primary listing of the Programme is the ESE and Notes issued under the Programme will be subject to the Terms and Conditions of the Applicable Pricing Supplement and the general Terms and Conditions of the Notes as set out in the Programme Memorandum dated 17 November 2019 in respect of the Programme. This abridged prospectus is not an invitation to the public to subscribe for the Notes in FINCORP, but is issued in compliance with the Listings Requirements of the ESE for the purpose of providing information to the public with regard to the FINCORP MTN Programme.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

FINCORP was launched by his Majesty King Mswati III in November 1995 with the main objective of financing the productive sector of the economy and wealth creation with an ultimate aim of creating jobs. It was in the same year that Tibiyo TakaNgwane assembled a number of organisations to brain storm the different possibilities of financing and promoting SMEs. The organisation was finally launched as FINCORP (Formerly Enterprise Trust Fund) in November 1995 as a wholesale lender using the grant seed capital of E44 Million obtained through bilateral relations. FINCORP first opened its doors to the public on 1st July 1996.

In 2003 the product offering was broadened to include retail lending. FINCORP is a registered private corporation with two shareholders namely the Eswatini Government and Tibiyo TakaNgwane holding 80% and 20%, respectively.

The objectives of FINCORP are:

- To finance and promote the development of Emaswati owned Enterprises;
- To Support the expansion of loan financing to Emaswati Entrepreneurs;

- To support the provision of business advisory services, training, monitoring, technical transfers and development of other products and services for Emaswati Entrepreneurs;
- To facilitate access to institutional development services and increase the long-term sustainability of Emaswati owned enterprises.

The lending methodology of FINCORP encompasses both wholesale and retail lending. As a relatively young organisation, FINCORP has a considerable success in reaching large numbers of entrepreneurs, whilst maintaining both high repayment rates and financial sustainability. Investment opportunities continue to be explored, primarily in the development finance market.

2. DIRECTORS

The names of the directors are set out below. On the date of listing, the FINCORP Board comprised:

Name	Director	Address
Mr Zonke Magagula, Chair	Director	C/O Box 6099 Mbabane
Mr Dumisani Msibi J.	Group Managing Director	C/O Box 6099 Mbabane
Mr Musa Mdiuli S.	Director	C/O Box 6099 Mbabane
Mr Simanga Simelane Z.	Director	C/O Box 6099 Mbabane
Ms Patricia Joubert N.	Director	C/O Box 6099 Mbabane
Mr Wandile Mathonsi T.	Director	C/O Box 6099 Mbabane
Ms Phindile Dlamini G.	Director	C/O Box 6099 Mbabane
Mr Vusie Dlamini E.	Director	C/O Box 6099 Mbabane
Mrs. Nnonhlanhla Shongwe	Director	C/O Box 6099 Mbabane

3. COPIES OF THE PROGRAM MEMORANDUM

Further copies of the programme memorandum may be obtained during business hours from the following addresses:

- Eswatini Development Finance Corporation, 2nd Floor, FINCORP Building, Cnr Gwamile and Dabede Streets, Mbabane;
- African Alliance Eswatini Securities Limited, 2nd Floor, Nedbank Centre, Cnr Sishayi and Sozisa Roads, Mbabane;
- African Alliance Eswatini Limited, 2nd Floor, Nedbank Centre, Cnr Sishayi and Sozisa Roads, Mbabane; and
- Transfer Secretaries: KPMG, Umkhiwa House, Karl Grant Street, Mbabane.

ARRANGER



SPONSORING BROKER



COMPANY SECRETARY
Mr. Sikolemaswati Ntshahintshali



TRANSFER SECRETARY



AUDITOR



DOC20675



MOUTHPIECE: SRA Director Communications Vusi Dlamini.

Pay children from late father's estate - court orders mom

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
High Court

THE High Court of Eswatini has issued an order calling upon a mother to pay three of her children from the estate of their father as beneficiaries.

High Court Judge John Magagula ordered Ellen Dlamini to pay a monthly sum of E7 000 for each of the three, money which is collected from rentals from some of the properties of the deceased's estate.

Three children have taken their mother Ellen to court claiming they did not receive a share of income generated from their late father's properties. Judge Magagula granted Nonhlanhla, Nosipho and Majahlaseni Dlamini their prayer sought in their application.

In their application whose affidavit was deposed to by Nonhlanhla, she stated that before their father passed on in 2015, their mother was made to be trustee of the SMC Dlamini Family Trust, which held rental properties under its name.

The application stated that in December 1993, the late Samuel and Ellen Dlamini created a trust, amassing all their immovable and movable property under it.

After their father's death, Ellen became its trustee and through the Trust, received almost E60 000 per month through the Swaziland Property Market as rental payments.

In 2016, Nonhlanhla filed an application requesting Ellen to furnish them with a report reflecting a full and accurate record of her trustee-ship.

However, Ellen submitted a report which stated that apart from the E60 000 rental payments received by the Trust, it also paid out E7 000 per month to its beneficiaries, which she stated was not true as they had never received such payments.

Nonhlanhla challenged this report, arguing that Ellen had failed to act in accordance with the Notarial Deed of Donations and Trust, requesting the trustee to submit copies of the accounts of the Trust with all its beneficiaries.

She also stated that there was no way that their mother could justify the huge maintenance figure she received on a monthly basis, as she resided alone with no one to take care of her needs.

In her answering papers, Ellen submitted that she had called such meetings twice in 2017, only for all three of the applicants not to show up at the meetings. She stated that she understood that monthly maintenance was paid to the beneficiaries on a need basis, which meant that it was meant to support the beneficiaries as and when the need arose.

She further responded that those who were benefitting from the Trust as it stood, were the maintenance and domestic workers previously maintained by the late Samuel, and be that as it may, the Trust did not have enough money after running expenses had been paid.

After hearing both arguments, Judge Magagula issued an order for Ellen (respondent) to pay, from the income generated by SMC Family Trust, each of her three children E7 000 per month, including the E33 800 in arrears from March 2015 to date.

Mbabane residents hit by water interruptions

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

TAPS are dry in some parts of Mbabane.

Despite an abundance of rainfall experienced throughout the country, resulting to swelling rivers and dam levels, some residents of Mbabane have experienced water shortage. The most affected areas are Dalriach East, Fonteyn, Mountain Inn, PTS, Malagwane, Mpolonjeni, Lomkiri and Macobolwane. Some residents of these areas had been living under the trying conditions without water for several weeks now. Some residents of Mahwalala Zone II said they had been without water for almost a week while those at PTS it's been almost a month. Some of the residents said they have been reporting the water shortage to Eswatini Water Services Corporation (EWSC).

In some of the areas, the corporation had provided alternative means but some of the residents narrated that they were not helpful because they take longer to fill up the tanks.

Meanwhile, the EWSC communication and corporate affairs

department through a press statement confirmed the interruptions. "We would like to notify our valued customers and members of the public in Mbabane and surrounding areas that there is an interruption in water," reads a statement issued by the department. The corporation explained that the interruption of the water supply was due to a major pipe burst at the Golf Course.

The corporation assured customers that repair works were ongoing and normal water supply should stabilise soon. As an intervention, the corporation is providing alternative supply in a form of tanks at designated areas identified by the company. Areas that are affected according to EWSC are Dalriach East, Fonteyn, Mountain Inn, PTS, Malagwane, Mpolonjeni and Lomkiri. "Any inconvenience caused is regretted," the corporation stated. The corporation pleaded with the public to exercise patience during the interruption to ensure access to the vital liquid.

The public was also urged to report pipe burst and any water interruptions immediately they experience them so that they can be serviced within a twinkle of an eye.

LONELY PLANET MAGAZINE HONOURS ESWATINI

BY BONGUMUSA SIMELANE
Mbabane

LONELY Planet, an international travel book and magazine publisher, has released a 12-page series of articles in honour of Eswatini in their December issue.

The articles were written by Group Editor Peter Grunert and pictures were taken by Philip Lee Harvey during their visit to Eswatini in June. Lonely Planet recently ranked Eswatini number five in the Best in Travel Awards in London about a month ago.

Grunert and Harvey were hosted by the Eswatini Tourism Authority (ETA) for a safari tour, and the highlights of their visit were Mkhaya Game Reserve, Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary, Mhlumeni Bush Camp and the Hlane Royal National Park.

The 12-page special report has also been translated to Dutch and published in another issue of the magazine. The editor describes Eswatini as a 'tiny kingdom of immense character,' and further commends the country's conservation efforts, especially in curbing rhino poaching.

In another publication, Lonely Planet summarises 2019 in a special edition dubbed 'Our Year In Review' and Grunert attributes his best memories to have been in Eswatini.

He is quoted saying: "Of so many memorable experiences from a trip to the tiny Kingdom of Eswatini in June, one of the deepest rooted is of spending time in the company of a horse named Granite."

In 2019, Grunert also travelled to Cumbria, Devon, Northumberland, Sussex (East and West), Yorkshire (North and West), Berlin, British Virgin Islands, Corfu and Nashville.

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI
Siteki

STAFF members of a health facility acted promptly and called the police after a woman who allegedly committed abortion came to seek medical attention.

The woman, Nosipho Ndzimandze was eventually arrested and charged with concealment of birth.

Information gathered was that the woman went to one of the local health facilities to seek medical attention after complaining of severe abdominal pains.

Upon arrival at the facility, she was referred to a doctor who subjected her to several medical tests. It transpired that the woman had terminated a premature pregnancy.

This prompted some staff members to call the police who reacted promptly. The woman is said to have admitted to the police that she had committed abortion.

MAKE IT HAPPEN

eSwatini

GETTING THERE & AROUND

South African Airways flies direct from London to Johannesburg from E679, flyswa.com, with onward flights available to Eswatini's new King Mswati II airport from E270, back with South African Airways via Johannesburg (swa.com). Most visitors rent a car and drive the five-hour journey from South Africa from E20 a day for a small hatchback, or E63 a day for a pickup truck suited to rougher roads, but no self-drive as a transfer service such as operated by Transwag (E16, gozwaland.co.za).

WHEN TO GO

Large-scale wildlife is easiest to spot in the dry winter months of May to September, while birds tend to be most active in the summer. Seek advice on malaria precautions, particularly if visiting low-lying areas in the hotter, wetter summer. Important cultural gatherings include the Umhlanga (Reed Dance) in late August to early September. In Swaziland, the name translates as First Fruits Festival, but its significance is far more complex in late December to early January, and Eswatini's (Dance Festival) in mid-February.

BOOK A TOUR

Swaziland Safari (swaziland.co.za) is the UK's sole tour operator specialising in Eswatini, and founder Jenny Bowser has great experience of the country. An



eight-hour drive that closely follows the experiences in our feature costs from E1,600pp (not including flight), and allows two nights each at Mkhaya Game Reserve, Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary (stay at Mlilwane Bush Camp or Mlilwane Royal National Park). Alternatively, Swaziland Safari can set up a twelve-night self-drive trip, ideal for a first time in southern Africa - Eswatini is relatively safe and simple to drive around from E2,450pp, including car hire but not flight. This covers stays in Mbabane, Mlilwane and Hlane, adding a stay at the Pines Hotel, and

self-guided walks alongside game reserves and wildlife at Mlilwane Game Reserve in the Lubombo Conservancy.

FURTHER READING

Eswatini was widely known as Swaziland until the name change in 2018, the joint occasion of the king's 50th birthday year and the 50th anniversary of independence from the British. The kingdom features in Lonely Planet's South Africa, Swaziland & Mozambique (E17.99), download the country chapter (E2.99) from chaplonelyplanet.com. See also Eswatini (Eswatini.com).



BEHIND THE SCENES

Siteki's outdoors at first light in Mlilwane's main camp, I didn't break out alone. Lonely had I got stuck into my bowl of cereal than an excellent reading from the book of a mahogany tree revealed a troop of warble vireos, their eyes fixed on my cat and mine. A splendid episode it came crawling by and roared for crumbs of my table, so I edged over to the fruit, where a family of warble vireos were away. I would have long guarded their prize position here, happily played out to the warm sun. PG

Shocked hospital staff set police on abortion woman

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI
Siteki

STAFF members of a health facility acted promptly and called the police after a woman who allegedly committed abortion came to seek medical attention.

The woman, Nosipho Ndzimandze was eventually arrested and charged with concealment of birth.

Information gathered was that the woman went to one of the local health facilities to seek medical attention after complaining of severe abdominal pains.

Upon arrival at the facility, she was referred to a doctor who subjected her to several medical tests. It transpired that the woman had terminated a premature pregnancy.

This prompted some staff members to call the police who reacted promptly. The woman is said to have admitted to the police that she had committed abortion.

She reportedly stated that she could not keep the pregnancy because she had been impregnated by a married man.

The woman was given the necessary medication before being taken to the police station where she was charged with concealment of birth.

She made an appearance before the Siteki Magistrate's Court and during her appearance the accused person was informed of her rights to legal representation, and she elected to conduct her own defence.

She was, however, not asked to plead to the charge as the crown filed an application to have the matter postponed pending setting of a date of trial.

Meanwhile, in another matter, Mcolisi Khumalo of Siteki appeared before the same court facing a charge of house-breaking and theft.

He was alleged to have wrongfully and unlawfully broke into a house belonging to Mfanafuthi Matsenjwa and stole items valued at E2 950.

The items included mainly clothing

and electronic appliances.

When asked on how he intends to plead to the charge, the accused person stated that he would plead not guilty to the charge.

The crown, therefore, filed an application to have the matter set for trial next month. In the meantime, Khumalo was remanded into custody pending setting of his trial date.

Upon arrival at the facility, she was referred to a doctor who subjected her to several medical tests. It transpired that the woman had terminated a premature pregnancy

ASPIRING DOCTOR CONVICTED FOR DAGGA POSSESSION

BY SIZWE DLAMINI
Pigg's Peak

PIGG'S Peak Magistrate Sibonelelo Dlamini expressed her shock when sentencing a medical university student for dagga possession.

The student Simphiwe Magongo was arrested by police at the Matsamo Border Gate in possession of 1.892 kilogrammes of dagga wrapped in a large black bag on Friday morning.

Following his arrest Magongo appeared before the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court where he

claimed to be a medical student at the prestigious University of Cape Town medical school.

"I am currently studying medicine at the University of Cape Town as I hope to become a doctor and my third year," he said.

He told the court that he lost both his parents who passed away a few

years ago leaving him to care for his six younger siblings, four of them in primary school and two in high school. Magongo added that he had purchased the dagga in Eswatini with hopes of selling it in the Republic of South Africa (RSA) for a meagre profit. After hearing submissions,

Magistrate Dlamini said that she was shocked to be sentencing a future doctor.

"I am so shocked that today I am sentencing a future doctor for dagga possession. I will sentence you to two years in a correctional facility if you fail to pay the E2 000 fine," she said.

Sukke Ontime Investment court case:

FSRA, CENTRAL BANK APPLICATION GRANTED

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
High Court

THE Eswatini Central Bank (CBE) and the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) have been allowed to intervene in the application against Sukke Ontime Investments filed at the High Court.

The High Court has granted leave for the two financial institutions to be enjoined following an application for joinder in the matter that will see 113 investors interdict Sukke Ontime Investments.

Represented by Warring Attorneys, FSRA and Central Bank of Eswatini's application of leave to intervene was granted by Principal Judge Qinisile Mabuza who stated that her ex-tempore ruling issued on November 6, was extended to February 4, 2020.

This comes after preliminary investigations into Sukke Ontime Investments business model by FSRA revealed that the company's operations fell under a collective investment scheme, and only held a licence of a general dealer, thus only authorised to trade as Sukke Ontime Investments General Dealer.

In his founding affidavit, FSRA Acting Chief Executive Officer, Bukhosi Dlamini, submitted that on or about the month



October, the authority became aware of a matter before the High Court where the applicants sought certain interdictory relief against the company.

He asserted that on enquiry, it transpired that the company (Sukke Ontime Investments) was being accused of conduct involving the handling and/or receiving of monies from the general public.

"According to Section 35 of the FSRA, Sukke Ontime as the first respondent is prevented from carrying on the business of a financial services provider without the necessary authorisation or permission. I submit that the first respondent has been conducting its business

of unlawfully, and so has its business model," Dlamini stated.

According to Section 2 of The Securities Act of 2010, it provides as follows: "Collective investment scheme means any arrangement in respect of property of any description, including money, the purpose of which is to enable a person taking part in the arrangement, whether by becoming the owner of the property or any part of it or otherwise, to participate in or receive profits or income arising from the acquisition, holding management or disposal of the property or sums paid out of the profits or income."

The matter is pending before court.

Woman takes advantage of cold weather, goes shoplifting

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI
Siteki

THE rainy few days provided a woman an opportunity to go shoplifting.

The woman Welile Maseko appeared before the Magistrate's Court after she was arrested and charged for shoplifting from one of the supermarkets in Siteki.

A security guard manning the shop told the court that the woman walked in like any other customer, took a shopping basket and went along the aisle taking some items and loading them into the basket.

When the accused person approached the pay point, it is said most of the items which she had loaded into the basket were no longer there. She further put the basket on the floor and headed towards the exit point. It was then that security guard stopped and asked to search her.

Items which included chicken portions, body lotion and soap were found stashed under the woman's clothing.

When the charge was put to her, the accused person pleaded guilty to the charge. Her plea was accepted by the Crown without leading evidence to prove commission of the offence.

In mitigation, the accused person asked the court to be lenient when passing sentence, saying that she was a single parent who was unemployed.

She told the court that she committed the offence out of frustra-



tion after she ran out of food to feed her children. She was accordingly found guilty by the court and sentenced to six months in a correctional facility with an option to pay E1 000 fine.

In another matter, Nsindiso Simelane faced a charge of assault. He was said to have wrongfully assaulted Sicelo Shongwe by stabbing him with a knife three times on the upper body.

The accused person was not asked to plead to the charge. The matter was postponed to next Tuesday pending setting of a date of trial.

A security guard manning the shop told the court that the woman walked in like any other customer, took a shopping basket and loaded items

AFRICA IMPROVES IN MALARIA REDUCTION

BY NOKUZOLA THWALA
Mbabane

FORMER President of the Republic of Tanzania Jikaya Kikwete said Africa has made a lot of progress in reducing malaria.

The former statesman was speaking during the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA) Holiday Cocktail reception in New York.

Kikwete said momentous progress had been achieved in the last 10 years as there have been significant reduction in malaria cases and deaths in Africa. However, the focal objective

has not been reached.

He said African states were not making enough progress to meet the global technical strategy targets which call for reduction in malaria cases and deaths of at least 40 per cent by 2020 or to meet the Sustainable Development Goal to end malaria globally by 2030.

"When the World Health Organisation released the 2019 World Malaria Report, there were some positive news but the main message of the report, was that the rates of progress had slowed over the last few years. This means that some of our critical targets are likely to be missed," he stated.

The report states that in 2018, there

were 228 million cases compared to 231 million in 2017 which is minimal improvement and 93 per cent of these cases were in Africa. South East Asia accounted for 3.4 per cent, Eastern Mediterranean 2.1 per cent and the remaining 1.5 per cent was in America.

Cases

19 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and India carried almost 85 per cent of the global malaria burden. Six Sub-Saharan African countries account for more than half of malaria cases globally:

Nigeria at 25 per cent, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) 12 per cent, Uganda five per cent, and

Mozambique, Cote d'Ivoire and Niger four per cent each.

According to the report, WHO South-East Asia Region is doing far better than the WHO Africa region. Incidence rates fell from 17 cases per 1 000 population at risk in 2010 to five cases in 2018 which is a 70 per cent decrease in south Asia. In Africa cases declined from 294 in 2010 to 229 in 2018, a 22 per cent decrease. Last year, 29 per cent of 11 million pregnant women in sub-Saharan Africa were infected with malaria. Nearly 900 000 children in 38 African countries were born with a low birth weight due to malaria in pregnancy.

"We have a lot of ground to cover.

We must double or even triple our efforts.

Perhaps, what is more depressing is the fact that malaria continues to strike hardest against pregnant women and children under five years old, in Africa.

These statistics are a telling reminder that although a lot has been done and achieved the situation is not so good at all. Something drastic needs to be done," said the former president.

He said although the situation looked dire, there were tools to deal with the problems and that African leaders were committed to taking requisite steps to end malaria in their continent. He said what needed to be done was to stay the course, scale up and sustain the current efforts and momentum.

Christmas Entertainment and Interior Design Supplement



Eswatini
Observer

SO WHERE'S THE PARTY AT?

...The Festive Season is also the time of year where we also hang out with family, friends and colleagues partying all night to the break of dawn in fabulous hotspots. So, if you have no intention to stay at home... here are a few places that are stylish that you and your entourage can visit to spend some quality time together....



YUMMY FRESH AND LIGHT MEALS

It's at City Court below Mbabane Clinic, Wendy's at Siphofaneni next to Lubovane Dam, Open House Boutique in Manzini, Pigg's Peak Hotel, Adega, Sibane Hotel, Happy Valley, and not forgetting Royal Villas in Ezulwini. It's also at the Ocean Basket, The George and Siteki hotels.

Come on over and spend Christmas Day or even New Year's with them. They will be serving some of the best cocktails, drinks, menus, and delicious fresh and light meals,

luscious desserts to beat the sweltering heat. They will be providing you with great service, there will be a wonderful atmosphere for you, your friends and guests. You can go for a boat ride at Wendy's.

You can have your very own pool party at the other venues. The perfect way to cool down while looking good. So, what are you waiting for? Start making your Festive Season Bookings as soon as possible. Come dressed to slay!!!

I feel it is important to give all those in the Hospitality Industry this heads up, people

today want and need more, they want to be wowed and surprised and taken on sensory food, design and landscaping journeys.

They have become so accustomed to absorbing unprecedented amounts of stimuli and information that it's what they expect 24/7. They want to be stimulated and excited, they want to enjoy all of life's fullness. They want to be surrounded by beautiful things that spark delight and they want new fabulous experience and it's your job to give them that!!!

Now that the Festive Season is upon us,

and is one of those special times that are exciting, very family orientated we will provide you with a Comprehensive Guide of how to make the most of it with our regular section where we will share with you Christmas venues, as well as tips and tricks for your home. What to do with regards to entertaining and décor.

We are aware that so many of you are house proud, love to cook as well as enjoy gardening and we will be featuring these topics in our new section. Enjoy!

Christmas Entertainment and Interior Design Supplement

CREATE A JAW DROPPING GRAZE PLATTER THIS FESTIVE SEASON

December is my favourite time of year and I start preparing for it as early as October and really look forward to singing Carols by Candlelight and listening to all my favourite Christmas songs by Mariah Carey, Boney M, Nat King Cole, ABBA etc.

This is also the time when I try something new to share with family and friends.

This year I'm all about creating over-the-top Al Fresco experiences using delicious ingredients. Eating Al Fresco is really all about encouraging family and friends to enjoy eating outdoors, while spending a great time together eating, drinking and talking amid peals of laughter.

Sometimes it's just too hot to cook and eat a full stodgy meal on a blazing hot day and you are just craving something light but delicious that you can eat outdoors.

When I'm feeling like that my go is to serve an alfresco meal. I particularly enjoy a graze platter or create a graze table that I can share with family and loved ones that's perfect for long lazy and languid days during the festive season. It's really simple to create as its lots of delicious bites to eat, its very filling and what I love most is that you can style up your table with the food and snacks you like to eat.

I love prosciutto, salami, a selection of cold meats, gherkins, cucumbers, a variety of grapes, some fresh French bread or if I'm wishing for something decadent Butter Croissants from my local Pick and Pay or the divine bread from Woolies, with some yummy cheese, have three varieties a soft one, a creamy one and a hard one, some dips, a selection of nuts, fresh fruit like banana, apples, strawberries, watermelon, figs, litchis, naartjies and my all-time favourites peaches and pineapples, all luscious and dripping with sweetness.

I also add dried fruit. Several types of potato chips and crackers for that fabulous crunch, as well as copious amounts of delicious iced cocktails, cold drinks and my favourite homemade Pina Colada. Yum!! Who says you need to leave home for a drop-dead gorgeous meal?

I find that this is a perfect way to host because it really requires little or no cooking at all, and is both beautiful to look at and to eat.

A graze platter is even perfect for Christmas, weddings, birthdays and dinner parties. It adds a pop of delicious colour and a head turning sense of wow. Plus, it's a fun and interactive way to dine that allows guests to feast their eyes on a visually appealing and delicious creation.

Here are several tips to help you cre-

● *It's a feast for the eyes. Welcome to the best holiday season Al Fresco Dining ever!*



The delicious food you should be eating this festive season.



ate your own stunning grazing table for the best Festive Season Al Fresco Dining 2019.

Tip 1: You need to decide what meal you intend making Al Fresco whether it will be Breakfast, Lunch, Afternoon Snack Affair or Dinner. Then plan your meal accordingly. Once you are clear with your direction you can choose blooms, foliage, lightning props in the event that you are having an evening

event, to complement your chosen design.

I love an in-between Graze Platter table. By in-between I mean the after lunch before dinner platter. When your guests can snack on a variety of different yummys like while lying horizontal on the couch or floor.

I also find that the Breakfast Graze Platter is pretty awesome especially when it has my favourite things like

croissants, yoghurt, waffles arranged with every topping imaginable.

Tip 2: Its really important to ensure that everything you purchase is fresh. That is so easy to do with the local fresh and delicious produce that we have Eswatini. Remember that we eat with our eyes first, so include a wide variety of produce in different colours and intersperse with lots of greenery and fresh florals to add texture.

Tip 3: Use varying heights when you set your table. This helps you create visual interest. Put your food both on and around your props. This helps your guests easily access your table as well as showcasing your cuisine.

Tip 4: Invite your guests to dig in!!

When you have invited guests over to your home please ensure that you have provided enough food and drinks for them to enjoy.

Once you have prepared everything please encourage your guests to pour themselves their favourite drink, serve themselves all the delicious food on offer.

Do provide clean crockery, which would include plates, side plates, cutlery and stemware for them to use.

Remember it's your job as the Hostess to Tempt, Tantalise and Enthrall your guests this Christmas!!

CLEAN OUT YOUR PANTRY AND FRIDGE

Go through the items in your pantry and fridge. Some items get pushed back and you may forget you have them. So, if you check regularly you won't buy stuff you already have. Get rid of any spices and condiments that have passed their expiry dates.

Stock your pantry with entertaining staples

If you keep your pantry stocked with the following items you will always have something to serve unexpected or short notice guests especially if you don't have the time to go to the store.

Purchase:

- ✓ Crackers
- ✓ Cheese and Ham
- ✓ Condiments
- ✓ Pickled Veggies like beets, carrots, pickles (Sweet and dill)
- ✓ Olives
- ✓ Salsa
- ✓ Chips
- ✓ A salad packs
- ✓ A variety of dips
- ✓ Fresh Fruit
- ✓ Dried Fruit
- ✓ Chocolate
- ✓ Ice Cream

STOCK THE BAR

It would really suck if your friends came by your house and you had nothing to serve them! Don't let that happen. Keep a few bar items in stock and you will be good to go.

Purchase:

- ✓ Basic spirits: Vodka, rum, gin
 - ✓ Different varieties of beer
 - ✓ A few bottles of red and white wine
 - ✓ Bags of ice for the freezer. Running out of ice is the worst especially in the summer heatwave
 - ✓ Lemons and limes
 - ✓ Have a stock of wine glasses, cocktail glasses and water glasses
- Remember:**
- ✓ To make a music playlist with a little of everything in it
 - ✓ A gorgeous scent for your home
 - ✓ Lovely flowers

Christmas Entertainment and Interior Design Supplement



Entertaining during the Festive Season can either be a lot of fun or it can stress you out big time!

With the amount of cleaning, shopping and cooking that gets done, we all need all the help we can get to make this time special and enjoyable.

The whole point of Christmas is remembering our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and being thankful for everything he has done for us, as well as spending a great time with our family, friends and colleagues. Not running around the whole-time doing things and getting more stressed and frazzled by the to-do list.

You really don't want every time you invite family and friends to be super stressful and overwhelming because you'll be snappy and irritable and leave everyone wondering why you invited them over.

So, it's important to plan ahead for a relatively stress-free Festive Season.

First things first is getting your home ready for guests and holiday entertaining.

It's really important to give your house a through clean before Christmas. I find if you have a spotless home, it's so much easier to keep it clean and helps make your guests do the same. You need to start your Christmas spring cleaning ASAP if you haven't already.

HERE'S A MINI-RUNDOWN OF WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH THE TIME AVAILABLE:

From today until Sunday: Ensure your carpets, sofas, blankets, linens, towels, bathroom mats, walls, floors, bathrooms, bedrooms, and the kitchen are cleaned this includes closets and cupboards. This cleaning should

also include chandeliers, light switches, stove, microwave, fridge etc.

From December 16 - 19: Ensure that your dining, living areas are cleaned. This also includes room dividers any stands, vases, cushion covers.

From December 20-23: Ensure that all your public areas are spotless. Ensure that your yard and drains are cleaned. Use paint to touch up any areas that don't look good.

Make sure that there is no rubbish or litter strewn about.

Use this cleaning period to declutter. Get rid of things you no longer use or need. Give it to a charity or an orphanage.

Provide an immaculately clean living area for your guests.

FESTIVE SEASON HOUSEKEEPING, DECOR TO DO LIST



STOCK YOUR GUESTROOMS AND BATHROOMS



There is nothing as welcoming as a gorgeous clean bedroom with lavish bedding for your guests.

There is nothing worse than being a guest in someone's home and running out of toilet paper or soap.

Don't let this happen to your guests.

Here is a list of items you should stock in your bathrooms. These little extra touches will make your guests feel special and make you a star host.

Ensure they have the following:

- Toilet paper
- Delicious smelling air freshener
- Handwash and Hand cream
- Hand towels
- Body towels
- Pretty scented candles
- Vases of flowers
- Sweets or chocolate for the pillows.

PREPARE YOUR GUEST BEDROOM FOR OVERNIGHT GUESTS

- Clean room thoroughly.
- Open the windows for fresh air
- Put on clean sheets, pillowcases,
- Have fresh towels
- Have an extra blanket in case it gets chilly
- Have a jug of water and glasses
- Have a few paperback books and magazines
- Have a vase of flowers on the side tables.



A stunning floral bathroom.

Christmas Entertainment and Interior Design Supplement



CLEANING TIPS AND TRICKS

I cannot over-emphasise enough the importance of having a clean home, outdoor area and office space etc

This is particularly important when you will be hosting friends and relatives in your home over the Festive Season. You have invited people over please make an effort to ensure that your home is a pleasant place to be at!!

Here are a few cleaning tips and tricks to get your home into ship shape.

IN THE KITCHEN

You can clean your stainless-steel appliances with clean soap water a lint free cloth and then wipe them down with a clean towel. How easy is that!

FOR YOUR MICROWAVE OVEN

You need to fill a microwave-safe bowl with one to two cups of water and microwave on high for two to three minutes. Remove, along with tray, and wipe interior with damp cloth. Wash tray in soapy water, rinse and replace; wipe exterior with soft cloth and all-purpose kitchen cleaner.

GRANITE/STONE/CAESARSTONE COUNTERS

Wipe with water and cleaner formulated for stone counter. Avoid harsh abrasives, though plastic scrubbing pads and sponges are fine. Periodically seal to protect surfaces.

BUTCHER BLOCK

Wash after every use with dish soap and water, and disinfect with spray bottle filled with one tablespoon of bleach to one litre of water; periodically, season with mineral oil (NOT olive oil or vegetable oil, which can go rancid).

DISHWASHER

Periodically check spinning arms for debris in spray holes and clean with pliers or a chopstick; wipe around edges of door and gasket; check drain for debris. Remove scale deposits by running on short cycle with powdered lemon drink mix, lemon juice or vinegar in a bowl on the top rack, or commercial dishwasher cleaner, following package directions. Please do this regularly.

LIVING ROOM

Cleaning your upholstered furniture can be easy with this formula. With a small soft hand held brush, clean all surfaces and crevices thoroughly. Mix one-quarter cup laundry detergent or liquid dish soap with one cup warm water in a large bowl. Avoid any harsh cleaners like bleach as they may



In a small space, you can use your dining room table as an office table.

cause the colour of your fabric to run or fade. Working one area at a time, rub suds gently over surface with a soft cloth or sponge; dirt will rise into the foam. Use a scraper to remove the foam and rinse with a damp cloth. Allow to dry overnight.

MIRRORS

Wipe down with damp cloth to remove surface smears and dust. Mix one cup vinegar with one litre warm water in a bucket; crumple newspaper (avoid ones printed with soy-based inks), and rub in circles over entire surface. Dry with dry crumpled newspaper.

DRAPERIES AND SHEERS

Wash at the beginning of each season and a week before a long holiday when you will be expecting

guests like Easter, Christmas or if it has been particularly windy.

FLAT SCREEN TV

Use a damp, lint-free cloth, working in circles out from the centre; dry with a dry cloth if necessary. Avoid commercial cleaners, and never spray anything directly onto the screen.

TV REMOTE

Every three months or so, remove batteries and replace if leaking. Wipe body of remote with a damp cloth every time you clean the room.

STEREO, DVD PLAYER, Wii CONSOLE, ETC.

Clean case with a damp cloth, being careful not to get any moisture inside vents. Gently clean glass

display panels, grooved areas and under knobs or switches.

COMPUTER

Regularly dust vents to prevent dust build-up, which can harm the computer. Thoroughly clean keyboard, keys and surface under them, as well as the mouse. Use a soft lint-free cloth, dampened if needed, to clean monitor and case. Clean laptops the same way, working very carefully so as not to force anything, which could break it.

DINING ROOM/OFFICE TABLE

In a small space, you can use your dining room table as an office table. Clean on a regular basis. Check for any food spills on the table, chairs etc.

CHANDELIER

Turn off power; cover any upward-pointing bulbs with sandwich bags and seal with rubber bands. Mix warm water with a little dishwashing liquid wipe down with a lint free cloth.

SILVERWARE

Line a shallow baking pan with aluminium foil. Fill with two to three inches of warm water mixed with one teaspoon of baking soda. Soak silverware for 10 minutes; rinse thoroughly and allow to air dry.

BEDROOM

Mattress: Flip mattress regularly. Brush regularly, especially crevices around piped edges and grooves. Use upholstery spot cleaner to treat most stains; try not to get mattress wet, and dry thoroughly if so.

Pillows: It is always a good idea to use pillow protectors to increase the life span of your pillows. You will, however, have to air them regularly. If you need to wash them do so in warm soapy water and air-dry out of the sun, fluffing occasionally while drying to retain shape. Set outside on a dry, sunny afternoon.

Comforter: Do not use too much soap if you will be handwashing your comforter. Rinsing it will be a nightmare if you do. Pre-treat any stains. If it's too large to handle, take to the dry cleaners.

Blankets: Most blankets can be hand washed but do ensure that they are properly rinsed. Nothing smells as bad as blankets and carpets where the soap has not been properly rinsed. Your blankets can also be taken to the dry cleaners.

Mirrors: Wipe down with damp cloth to remove surface smears and dust. Mix one cup vinegar with one litre warm water in a bucket. Dry with crumpled newspaper.

CLEANING THE FRIDGE

It is really important to keep your refrigerator and its contents fresh as there is nothing as off putting as getting a bad smell when you open your fridge and that can be especially embarrassing when you have visitors and friends over.

Food is a very expensive commodity and with so many people starving around the world it is a shame to waste it.

If you have more than you can handle give the food that's edible to those who are less fortunate. To prevent food going to waste in your home you need to shop smart. Draft your shopping list based on a detailed weekly menu plan and you will never have that problem again.

It also helps to defrost meat and fish when it is needed. When you purchase your groceries with a game plan of what you will be cooking etc you will be able to consume your most vulnerable produce like your berries and leafy greens first and know to serve your harder fruits and vegetable later in the week.

Try to cook enough food for the meal that you

are serving as any leftovers tend to go off pretty fast in the heatwave of summer.

To keep your fridge pristine, you need to keep a keen eye on best-before dates and watch out for rot, removing culprits promptly to prevent mould and bacteria from spreading in your fridge.

DEEP CLEAN

You need to deep clean your fridge regularly. Hand wash removable pieces separately with dish soap. Spray the interior of the fridge with a solution of equal parts hot water and white vinegar; let sit for 20 minutes. Wipe clean with a wet sponge and dry with a clean cloth. Replace the removable components and food.

FRONT AND CENTRE

To prevent older food from getting buried under new, before unloading groceries, remove the perishables already in the fridge and replace them last. (This is also a great time to do any necessary spot cleaning.)

DO: Make sure that the temperature in your fridge is working to ensure food is being kept at

the optimal temperatures.

DON'T: Over-pack your fridge; air circulation is key to maintaining a consistent coolness throughout.

EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE

Everything should be in its place.

BOTTOM SHELF

Always the coldest: Keep defrosting meat, poultry and fish here.

MIDDLE SHELF

Consistently cold: It's great for leftovers.

TOP SHELF

Reliably cool: It's ideal for drinks and packaged foods, such as yogurt.

DOOR

Fluctuating temperatures: Use for long-shelf-life items (condiments, jams, etc.).

DRAWERS

Cold and humid: Separate produce here; adjust humidity too low for fruit and high for vegetables. If you have a third, use it for cheese.



A clean fridge that has been beautifully styled.

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	1.6%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	6.5%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E13.65 per litre
Replacement	E13.70 per litre
Diesel	E13.65 per litre
Paraffin	E9.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 11 DEC 2019

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	14.7851	14.8351
British Pound/SZL	19.4320	19.4977
Japanese Yen/SZL	7.3313	7.3541
Swiss France/SZL	15.0117	15.0610
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3528	1.3722
Australian Dollar/SZL	10.0745	10.1160
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11.1754	11.2106
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	16.3974	16.4528
Gold	1,463.2795	
Oil	68.41	

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Standard Bank

RAINS RUINED OUR BUSINESSES - VENDORS

BY BAHLE GAMA

VENDORS around Mbabane say that the ongoing rain has ruined their business.

Speaking during interviews, the vendors vented that the rainfall that has been pouring these past few weeks caused damage to their merchandise and stock.

Others expressed their heartbreak at their customers' inability to visit their stalls due to the rain.

One of the vendors who asked for anonymity became emotional when explaining that she had new stock that had arrived and it was ruined during the rain resulting in a major loss.

"We appreciate the rain as Emaswati but as vendors it has a negative impact on our businesses resulting to a major loss. I am very devastated just at the thought of how much damage it has caused here," she said.

This is what some of the vendors had to say:

Sibongile Vilakati (Nkwalini)
"The rain disturbed my business as customers were unable to come through to see what merchandise I had available.

It has been a tough week for me as I had new stock from South Africa and it was ruined by the rain.



Sibongile Vilakati.

I have a family and its Christmas season and I have nothing to bring back home."

Margaret Matsebula (Fonteyn)
"With the type of setting that some of our businesses are located in, the rain had no mercy as our stock were ruined and no customers were able to visit most of our stalls. It has been a very sad week for us as vendors."



Margaret Matsebula.

Phathwakahle Dlamini (Mantabeni)

"As I speak to you I have had to leave some of the merchandise meant for selling at the market hanging to dry at home because of the rain. It was very difficult to operate as it has been raining, there were little or no customers. I had to use a sail to try and protect the clothes that I sell but failed and my new stock was ruined."



Phathwakahle Dlamini.



Sotja Magagula.

Sotja Magagula (Nkwalini)

As a person who sells fruits I can tell you right now that half of our stock mostly litchies were ruined by the rains.

As we use boxes as stands they

got wet during the rain causing our support to crumble and our fruits to scatter. One other challenge was our customers being unable to come to our stalls and business really flopped."

Insurance sector important contributor to financial stability

BY BAHLE GAMA

THE Central Bank of Eswatini (CBE) says the insurance sector is an important contributor to financial stability due to insurers' links to the real sector.

This information is disclosed in the bank's financial stability report issue number three.

It states that their balance sheets unlike those of banks are composed of relatively illiquid liabilities that protect insurers against the risk of rapid liquidity shortages that often challenge banks.

Insurance companies are large

financial market investors since they invest insurance premiums from policy holders.

However, due to the size of their investment portfolios fund movements have the potential to move markets and in extreme scenarios adversely affect financial stability.

The report further states that insurance companies links with banks give an indication of the transmission channels of potential problems between the sectors.

In addition, insurance companies promote financial stability among households and firms by ensuring their risks.



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COTTON PRODUCTION PROJECTED TO RISE BY 1.5%

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

Weather conditions in the Lowveld continue to positively impact recovery in the cotton industry.

This is according to the Central Bank of Eswatini annual economic review report 2018/19.

"Even though the area planted decreased by approximately 620 hectares, cotton production increased by 759 metric tonnes (by 23 per cent) in the 2017/18 harvesting season from 717 metric tonnes in the previous season.

However, cotton production is forecasted to increase to 1 500 metric tonnes in the 2018/19 harvesting season," reads the report.

Despite the improvement in weather conditions, cotton output has remained significantly lower than the pre-drought

five-year average of 2 100 metric tonnes. This is mainly due to the unavailability and rising costs of conventional cotton seed.

Furthermore, the number of cotton farmers increased from 1 110 in the 2016/17 season to 1 333 in the 2017/18 season. With the prices fixed at E6 per kg for the top grade cotton, income to growers increased to 4.6 million in the period under review, from E3.5 million in the previous year.

The relatively higher output to the cotton ginnery ensured that the Eswatini Cotton Board (ECB) realises positive performance in processed cotton. Cotton lint, which is the main product in the ginnery, recorded a 13.4 per cent increase to 304 metric tonnes in 2017/18 from 268 metric tonnes in the previous season, "highlights the report.

The productions of fuzzy seeds, which

are a bi-product of the cotton lint, also grew to 425 metric tonnes in the period under review from 328 metric tonnes in the previous year. Following the closure of a local spinning company, Sprintex, which was the sole buyer of the lint output in the recent past, the ECB now exports all the cotton lint to spinning companies in South Africa and Lesotho.

Revenue from the lint sales amounted to 7.3 million in the 2017/18 marketing season from 5.9 million in the previous marketing season.

Fuzzy seeds were also sold to feedlots in South Africa at a value of 1.1 million. The report states the outlook of the cotton industry looks positive in the medium term as the ECB continues with its advocacy and lobbying for the growing of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) cotton in the country.

Financial metrics provide early warnings in pensions sector

BY BAHLE GAMA

Financial metrics such as cash flow can provide early warnings of liquidity and solvency risk, particularly in the Eswatini pensions sector.

This is according to the Central Bank of Eswatini's (CBE) financial stability report issue number three.

It states that cash flow measures can also highlight the annual impact of volatility for pension fund's sectors comparatively healthy fiscal situation.

The cash flow from operation ratio represents the difference between financial outflows (benefits payments) and cash before investments as a share of a pension fund's assets.

According to the report, if the pension fund has an operating cash

flow of three per cent, for example it would need to achieve investment returns of at least three per cent that year to keep its assets from dropping.

Therefore, investment returns should be equal or more than the operating cash flow to avoid a decrease in the pension funds asset base.

The pension sector has positive ratios, however, the aggregate trend fell to 6.3 per cent in 2017 from 6.9 per cent 2016 before recovering to 9.1 per cent in 2018. This is an indication that the sector is less dependent on investments to pay anticipated benefits.

As overall cash flow from operations improve sub-optimal investment are less likely to cause a drop in pension funds' assets which will make it easier for the sector to generate returns in the future.

SA risks becoming a 'forgotten country,' RMB CEO warns

JOHANNESBURG - South Africa must move quickly to implement the reforms needed to salvage its status as an investment destination and breathe life into the struggling economy.

"SA is rapidly becoming a forgotten country and has stopped being talked about as an investment destination," James Formby, the chief executive officer of FirstRand Ltd.'s Rand Merchant Bank, wrote in Johannesburg-based newspaper Business Day.

"It's no longer five to midnight, it is midnight.

"We cannot afford to wait any longer to turn things around."

Implementing greater fiscal discipline, dealing with corruption, providing a stable supply of electricity and easing labor laws are among the major challenges South Africa must address, he said. While the government battles to find consensus on the best way forward with these because of ideological differences and factions within the ruling party, there are some quick wins that can be capitalized on.

A good place to start accelerating change is at the nation's state-owned power utility Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd., Formby said.

The debt-ridden firm is struggling to the keep lights on and has been labeled by Goldman Sachs Group Inc. as the nation's greatest threat.

"While I appreciate the enormity of the challenge to fix Eskom, a new CEO has been announced and the best thing he can do is share his plan and implement it without fear of political interference," Formby said.

An effective plan to restructure

Eskom's balance sheet and stabilise the grid by dealing with operational issues should be done without delay, he said.

While South Africa's cash-strapped national carrier South African Airways was correctly placed in business rescue recently, "if more action is not taken and fiscal discipline is not instilled across the state, SA risks permanent damage to the economy."

Gross domestic product in Africa's most-industrialised economy contracted for the second time this year in the third quarter.

A downgrade by Moody's Investors Service, the only major ratings company that still assesses South Africa's debt at investment grade, is almost inevitable.

"Further downgrades mean the cost of borrowing rises, not just for the government but also for banks and every ordinary business and individual," Formby said.

"The transmission of higher borrowing costs will retard economic growth."

Getting the private sector involved in important infrastructure projects means "policy makers don't need to think too hard" about solutions but can rely on partnerships with businesses to progress its development agenda and absorb some of the risks of funding and delivery, the CEO said.

"Doing some things now that send the right message is far more valuable than promises or endless debates and further years of contemplation while the country slides to an economic also-ran," he said.

Bloomberg

ETA strives to contribute to GDP growth - Linda

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

Eswatini Tourism Authority (ETA) is determined to continue contributing towards a sustainable Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as well as sustainable job creation in the country.

Speaking during an interview, ETA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Linda Nxumalo said the authority would do this through delivering sustained increases in tourism volume, tourist spending, length of stay, improved geographic spread and seasonal patterns since this year's tourism GDP decreased due to the current economic crisis.

"In 2018 tourism contributed to 1.3 per cent," she said. Nxumalo said the authority will achieve this by understanding the market better, choosing attractive segments, facilitating the removal of obstacles and also facilitating product enhancement, monitoring and learning from tourism experience.

"The ETA has the responsibility to perform these marketing functions," said the CEO.

She highlighted that the authority's



ETA Chief Executive Officer Linda Nxumalo.

marketing function includes telling the destination story and setting the list for consideration, informing, educating and advising visitors and newcomers. ETA's secondary role is to provide a platform for local businesses to harvest visitor demand, which includes those who come in for personal leisure or businesses including conventions. Others are potential new comers and relocating businesses. The CEO further stated that destination promotions involve persuasive

communication, designed to send market related messages to a selected target market such as air travel, hotel accommodation, restaurant meals and tour packages.

"With communication the focus should be on changing the behaviour of the consumer," emphasized the CEO.

For tourism, attaining sustainable economic growth would help solve other significant economic problems, especially for future generations.

AFRICA BORROWING LIKE IT'S THE 1990s WORRIES THE IMF

INTERNATIONAL - Record commodity prices and low global interest rates have encouraged African countries to borrow like they did in the 1990s, but now some are struggling to pay up as their revenue slows along with economic growth.

Government debt as a percentage of gross domestic product in sub-Saharan Africa has doubled in the past decade, heading back toward the level it reached at the turn of the century.

International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said in November this is a cause for concern. Of the 54 countries on the continent, 20 are near or at distressed levels, according to the IMF, which means they face difficulties honouring their obligations.

Increase

African governments have raised about US\$26 billion in international markets this year, from close to \$30 billion in 2018, as they took advantage of investors' thirst for returns in a world awash with negative yields.

Volatile currencies across the continent increase the risks of borrowing in hard currency and the rising cost of servicing debt could crowd out other expenditure in a region that's home to more than half of the world's poor people.

"The conditions are ripe for a much higher level of debt distress," Sonja Gibbs, head of sustainable finance at the Institute of International Finance, said by phone.

"Whatever triggers the next crisis, when it happens, you are likely to see a high degree of contagion risk because



International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva.

investors have been moving into higher yielding assets."

Further fanning fears of a new crisis is the surge in direct credit from China.

Handed

The China Africa Research Initiative at Johns Hopkins University estimates that the Asian country's government, banks and contractors handed US\$143 billion in loans to African states and state-owned companies between 2000 and 2017.

Still, Africa is far from a debt crisis, its biggest multilateral lender says.

"Some individual countries are getting to higher levels in terms of debt-to-GDP ratios, that's the concern," African Development Bank President

Akinwumi Adesina said in an interview.

The debt-to-GDP ratio of Africa is still "well within acceptable limits," he said.

More reliance on commercial bonds has raised debt servicing costs, diverting funds that could be spent on new roads or schools.

Nigeria, the continent's top oil producer, spends about the same amount every year on repaying debt as it does on infrastructure.

Countries such as South Africa, the continent's most industrialised economy, are raising debt levels and this year had its biggest Eurobond issuance yet to help plug a widening budget deficit. *Bloomberg*

Metair completes lithium-ion cell plant

CAPE TOWN - Auto component group Metair have successfully completed the installation of the group's first lithium-ion cell manufacturing plant in Bucharest, Romania.

It will have a production capacity of between 0.6 million and 1 million cells a year. Commissioning was progressing to plan, with production anticipated in the second quarter of 2020.

The completion marked the conclusion of Metair's €13.6 million greenfield development capital for lithium-ion technology, started in 2017.

Meanwhile in Turkey, Metair remained positive about the market outlook in spite of geopolitical challenges, as it enters the typical critical seasonal year-end high demand cycle, a statement said yesterday.

Following the resignation of CEO of lead acid battery subsidiary Mutlu Aku in November, and until a new CEO was appointed, Metair management, including Theo Looock and Sjoerd Douwenga, would assist the management team.

The existing Mutlu Aku board would also be strengthened with the appointment of two non-executive Metair directors, Manfred Muell and Billy Mawasha, adding to the existing four members.

The enlarged board would oversee the appointment of a new CEO.

In South Africa, long-term prospects "remain positive", with several customers confirming new vehicle launches and investments. Metair was in negotiations to secure addi-

tional business related to the new models.

A strategic review, as announced in the 2018 integrated report, had concluded that the two business verticals, Automotive Components and Energy Storage, were in different strategic positions and that a managed separation of the two verticals would unlock value for stakeholders.

The board had received unsolicited expressions of interest for the Energy Storage vertical, and in particular, for Mutlu Aku.

"The board believes shareholders' interest will be best served by exploring the best way to unlock shareholder value, which will include the consideration of either keeping the business as a separate vertical, or potentially selling the business."

The board intended to engage with shareholders on this matter.

Business Report

The board believes shareholders' interest will be best served by exploring the best way to unlock shareholder value, which will include the consideration of either keeping the business as a separate vertical, or potentially selling the business.

Fury as blackouts hit small businesses hard

CAPE TOWN - South Africans are furious and businesses are reeling following the sudden implementation of stage 6 load shedding by beleaguered power supplier Eskom.

On Monday, in an unprecedented move, Eskom was forced to implement stage 6 load shedding for the first time. According to Eskom, it was battling with capacity constraints caused by severe flooding and unplanned outages. Stage 6 load shedding allows up to 6000 megawatts to be shed from the grid.

Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Geoff Jacobs said: "Smaller companies do take a bigger hit from electricity failures than larger companies. Those businesses who get their supply directly from Eskom, and not the City, are in a worse position when outages occur."

Jacobs said the costs of back-ups were considerable for a small business. "Those based in shopping centres cannot operate generators because of fumes, general safety concerns and noise. Unless the centre has power back-up, they too have to shut down oper-

ations when an outage occurs," Jacobs said.

Economist Dawie Roodt said the country was not in a good position. "This is costing the country a great deal. At the moment, what we are seeing is that the economy is buzzing and it's becoming quite damaging on businesses."

He said President Cyril Ramaphosa had shown he was incapable of getting to grips with the issue. "A few years ago, when Ramaphosa was in charge of the state's entities, he promised that load shedding would be a thing of the past within two years."

"Two years later, we've seen no change."

"Eskom's debt has ballooned and the current leadership has not taken any charge," Roodt said.

The City on Tuesday warned residents that they could expect water interruptions as a result of load shedding. The City has the Steenbras Hydroelectric power scheme. Steenbras was the first hydroelectric pumped-storage scheme commissioned on the continent, with an installed capacity of 180MW.

Cape Argus

Not all doom, gloom for SA investors

JOHANNESBURG - South Africa may have its problems, but it isn't prey to the persistently low-interest-rate environment that prevails in the developed world. In fact, we remain an attractive investment destination, red flags notwithstanding.

South Africa has been in the news

for all the wrong reasons, and we know what they are: the parlous state of Eskom and other state-owned entities, low gross domestic product (GDP) growth, policy uncertainty, the threat of a downgrade by Moody's.

We also know that if we do not fix Eskom, we will not have enough

power to support higher GDP growth that is essential to bringing our socio-economic ills under control.

Urgent solutions are needed, and time is running out to fix the economy.

Yet it's not all doom and gloom, as we often predict.

Business Report

Tongaat Hulett suffers equity reduction

DURBAN - Tongaat Hulett suffered a reduction of equity to the value of R11.89 billion as a result of impairments of R4bn, including the derecognition of expropriated land in Zimbabwe and R3bn of deferred tax assets that have not been taken into account in the past.

The agriculture and agri-processing company was forced to restate its financials after a PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) forensic investigation begun in March



confirmed that senior group executives, including Chief Executive Peter Staude and nine others, had overstated assets and profits by using

"undesirable accounting practices".

The R11.89bn reduction in equity was restated from the anticipated reduction of between R3.5bn and R4.5bn the agriculture and agri-processing company estimated in May as a result of overstatement in its revenue and profits.

Tongaatt said the process has been encouraging and its core business remains strong with positive cash flows from operating activities and strong margins at an operational profit level. *Business Report*

Focus on Africa News

Continental News

'GABON PRESIDENT TURNING COUNTRY INTO MONARCHY'

GABON - Gabon opposition leader Jean Ping said on Tuesday that the appointment of the president's eldest son as his top aide showed that the Central African country was turning into a monarchy.

Nouredin Bongo Valentin, 27, was appointed co-ordinator of presidential affairs last week after his father Ali Bongo Ondimba's chief of staff was sacked for alleged corruption.

Opposition elements saw the appointment as a step towards assuring the president's succession after he suffered a stroke in October 2018 followed by a convalescence that lasted several months.

"This appointment confirms, once again, that the country is turning into a monarchy," Ping, who contests his bitter loss to Bongo in 2016 elections, told a conference held at his residence in the capital Libreville.

Bongo's powerful former chief of staff Brice Laccruche Alihanga was



TURNING: Gabon opposition leader Jean Ping.

sacked early last month following a massive anti-corruption probe.

Laccruche's power had grown after Bongo fell ill.

After maintaining a low profile since his illness, the president has appeared in much better health in recent weeks.

He succeeded his father Omar Bongo, who died after ruling the oil-rich country for 42 years, in elections in 2009. Ping saw the sacking of Alihanga, who was arrested along with three former ministers in his orbit, as "open clan warfare" in a battle for power. **AFP**

Provincial leaders endorse Mnangagwa

HARARE - Provincial leaderships of Zimbabwe's ruling party ZANU-PF have begun endorsing President Emmerson Mnangagwa as the party's sole candidate for the next presidential elections in 2023.

Mnangagwa has so far received endorsement from Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South, Bulawayo and Mashonaland Central provinces, ahead of the party's annual conference to run from December 11-16 in Goromonzi, Mashonaland East Province.

The remaining six provinces are also expected to reaffirm Mnangagwa's candidature so that a resolution to that effect is passed at the end of the conference.

This will be the second time that such a resolution is passed since Mnangagwa assumed leadership of the party in 2017, the first time being the party's last conference held in Esigodini, Matabeleland

South Province, in Dec. 2018.

The last conference passed resolutions in the five areas of politics, economics, history, local governance and war veterans, women and youth, with the first issue being the party's endorsement of Mnangagwa as its 2023 presidential candidate.

Secretary for information and publicity Simon Khaya Moyo, said Sunday that this week's conference will be preoccupied by the state of the economy in tandem with its theme: "Modernise, Mechanise and Grow the Economy Towards Vision 2030".

"The conference will obviously concentrate on the state of the economy consistent with the theme. 'This means we must transform our means of production and create jobs. We shall have speakers addressing us on several thematic issues around the economy,'" he said.

Xinhua

Corruption hits Moza's economy

RUSTENBURG - Corruption is holding back investment and reduces the possibility of forming a cohesive and robust business class that could create jobs and promote socio-economic development in Mozambique.

Xinhua News Agency reported that Mozambican Prime Minister Carlos Agostinho do Rosario

made the remarks on Monday, during a celebration of the International Anti-Corruption Day in the central province of Zambezia, where he revealed that some 2 000 disciplinary proceedings have been brought against state officials and agents in the past two years.

"The government considers that the situation is worse than expected, as cases of corruption continue to be reported and with severe impacts on the national economy," said Rosario.

He added that corruption "destroys incentives for investment," which "leads to increased poverty, creates asymmetries and gnaws the image and prestige of the state, causing the loss of ethical standards of governance".

ANA

SUDAN'S DEPOSED BASHIR QUESTIONED OVER 1989 COUP

DARFUR - Sudan's former president Omar al-Bashir appeared on Tuesday before a prosecutors' committee over the 1989 coup that brought him to power, his lawyer said.

Bashir was "brought to be investigated in the case of the alleged 1989 coup," said his lawyer, Mohamed al-Hassan, who did not attend the hearing.

The lawyer also told reporters that in his view the hearing was "not a judicial matter, it's a political matter".

In 1989, Bashir, a brigadier at the time, seized power in an Islamist-backed coup that toppled the elected government of prime minister Sadiq al-Mahdi.

The former president was himself ousted

by the army in April of this year after months of nationwide protests against his iron-fisted rule of three decades.

On November 12, Sudanese authorities filed charges against Bashir and some of his aides for "plotting" the 1989 coup. The prosecution established a special committee for the case.

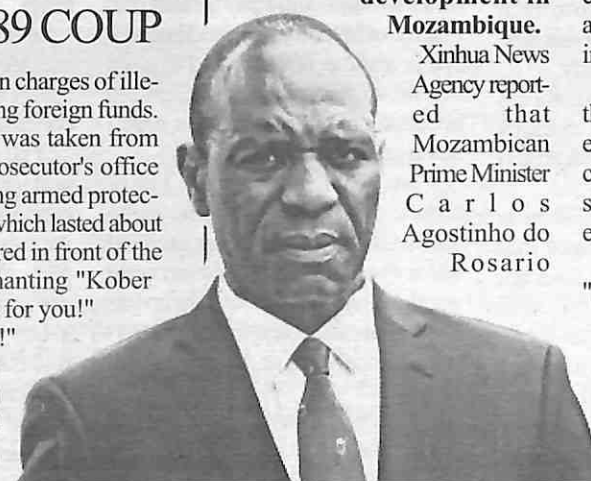
If found guilty, he could face the death penalty or life imprisonment under Sudanese law. Sudan is now ruled by a joint civilian and military sovereign council, which is tasked with overseeing a transition to civilian rule as demanded by the protest movement.

Bashir is being held in Kober prison in a separate case, for which he has been

on trial since August, on charges of illegally acquiring and using foreign funds.

On Tuesday, Bashir was taken from Kober prison to the prosecutor's office in a convoy under strong armed protection. After the hearing, which lasted about an hour, a crowd gathered in front of the prosecutor's office, chanting "Kober prison -- the best place for you!" and "you killed people!"

Wearing the traditional white Sudanese jalabiya and turban, Bashir raised his hands to the crowd, before he set off back toward Kober in the convoy. **AFP**



STRESSES A POINT: Prime Minister of Mozambique Carlos Agostinho do Rosario.

BRIEFS

Police woman arrested for killing protester

GOMA - A policewoman in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was on Tuesday arrested after allegedly shooting a young protester dead at close range in the eastern city of Goma, police said. The teenage boy was killed as angry residents staged protests after police prevented them from pursuing thieves who were preying on northern neighbourhoods in the city, a local official added. "I have just arrested the officer who shot the youth at point-blank range. It is a policewoman. We have placed her in the hands of the appropriate authorities," Police Chief Jean-Baptiste Bukili told an AFP correspondent. **AFP**

Power station will facilitate access to electricity market

CAPE TOWN - The African Development Bank (AfDB), Embassy of Germany in Rwanda and the KfW Development Bank have joined the government of Rwanda to launch Shango power substation in Kigali to facilitate access to the regional electricity market. In a statement on Tuesday, the group said the substation is part of the NELSAP Regional Interconnection Project involving Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, DRC and Burundi. The Rwandan component, at an estimated cost of 111.03 million euros, involves the construction of 286 km of 220 kV lines, three substations and the upgrade of two substations. **ANA**

Algeria jails two ex-prime ministers

ALGERIA - An Algerian court jailed two former prime ministers for corruption on Tuesday, two days before a presidential election which protesters want cancelled. Ahmed Ouyahia, who was prime minister four times, received a 10-year jail sentence and Abdelmalek Sellal, who was twice premier, was jailed for 12 years. They denied all charges, including "misappropriation of public funds, abuse of power and granting undue privileges." The court in Algiers also handed 10-year prison terms to two former industry ministers, and sentences ranging from three to seven years to five prominent businessmen. **Reuters**

Two drivers killed after train derailed

RUSTENBURG - Two train drivers were killed and several passengers injured when a train derailed near Mahalapye village in central Botswana. News agency Xinhua quoted Botswana Railways spokesman Sakaeyo Baitshapi as saying 400 people were on board the train including 20 crew members. "It is with deep regret that two of the train service crew lost their lives during the accident which occurred around 2am hours on Tuesday morning," Baitshapi said, adding that two other train crew members and a passenger sustained serious injuries and were admitted at a local district hospital. **ANA**

Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

AT LEAST 17 INJURED AFTER BUS CATCHES FIRE

JOHANNESBURG - At least 17 passengers have been left injured after a bus caught fire on the N1 North, authorities said yesterday.

The bus caught fire just after the William Nicol off-ramp. The bus was travelling from Cape Town

to Zimbabwe.

Emer-G-Med paramedics received reports of the incident and upon arrival, found traffic at a standstill and the smoking bus stranded in the middle lane.

According to the company, the bus caught fire after a front tyre

burst.

"The bus driver then stopped the bus and as he alighted, the smoke spread to the rest of the vehicle," Emer-G-Med said.

This resulted in passengers rushing to get off, and getting injured in the process.

Emer-G-Med confirmed that 17 passengers sustained injuries and were being taken to hospital. Fatalities could not be confirmed at this stage.

Firefighters are still working to put out the fire, which has since spread to the bus' trailer.

JMPD spokesperson Wayne

Minnaar also confirmed the incident, but denied any recorded injuries.

"We are still going to investigate the cause of the fire but we are fearing an explosion which is why traffic is being diverted off at William Nicol, past Witkoppen, Rivonia Road leading back to the N1," Minnaar said.

IOL

BLACKOUTS THREATEN OXYGEN USER'S LIFE

JOHANNESBURG - For Precious Moilwa, every scheduled electricity outage could be her last breath.

Moilwa suffers from pulmonary hypertension, which is a type of high blood pressure that affects the arteries in the lungs and the right side of the heart, causing short breath.

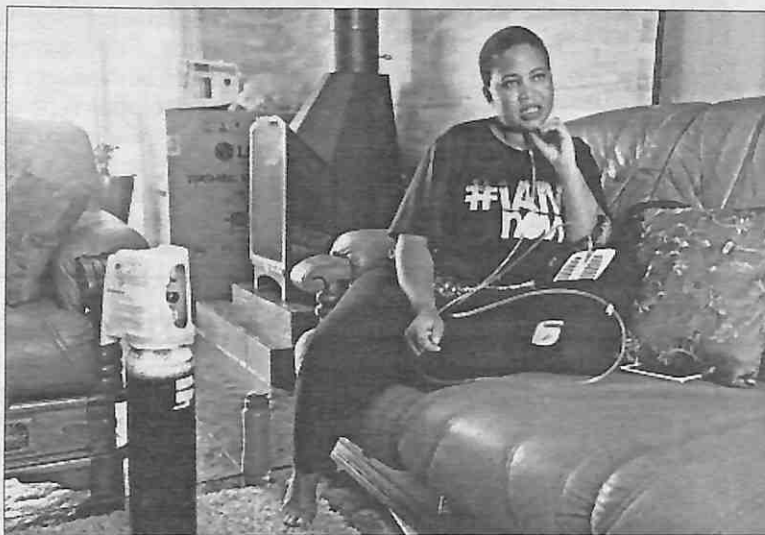
Since the latest roll-out of Eskom's loadshedding, the 32-year-old has used up five 4l oxygen tanks as her oxygen machine's functionality is dependent on electricity.

"It's been a nightmare since loadshedding has started. I've used up five tanks so far. It's very expensive and that is why it's extra difficult for me during the blackouts," she said.

Moilwa said the oxygen cylinder costs R450 to refill every two to three days while the home oxygen machine costs R2 000 to rent monthly.

She said each cylinder lasts for six hours and that electricity outages sometimes run over the scheduled periods.

"When I can't afford to refill them or if Revitalise, the company that provides me with oxygen, does not stick to its schedule, I am forced to go to hospital to get oxygen there. It's more expensive because they have to run a series of tests before they can give me oxygen each time I go. "I see my doctors two to three



times a month and I pay a consultation fee of R950 a month and because I'm in and out of hospital, I'm even behind with a R5 800 payment but because I'm getting the best care I can live longer.

"I am privileged because I have chronic medical aid. It pains me to realise that as high as my medical bill is every month there's someone out there without the cover who has to fight the disease without the luxury medical care and equipment I have."

In March, she started a foundation named 'Mapafu,' a Swahili word for

lungs.

Among others, the foundation creates awareness on lung diseases and brings hope to people living with the condition similar to hers.

"The government does not offer portable oxygen machines and extra support for patients and, as a result, we raise funds that help with support groups, oxygen refilling money and hope to be able to get sponsored to buy portables, which cost around R40 000 per machine," Moilwa said.

She registered the non-profit organisation last year.

Sowetan Live

BOSASA auction rakes in more than R100m

JOHANNESBURG - The three-day BOSASA auction exceeded expectations, raking in more than R100 million.

Assets belonging to BOSASA, now known as African Global Operations (AGO), went under the hammer last week. Auctioneers, Park Village Auctions, expected to make R65m from the public sale, but can now smile all the way to the bank with the R100 million success.

The auction, held at the AGO headquarters in Krugersdorp, west of Joburg, had more than 1 000 registered buyers.

While some were there to snap up vehicles, such as AGO head Gavin Watson's Porsche and BMW X5, which fetched more than a R1m, others also got their hands on the array of assets on offer.

The contents of a prayer room that included three black leather tub chairs, two leather couches, a coffee table and carpet sold for R40 000.

An industrial Nespresso coffee machine, with assorted crockery, sold for R96 000. The buyer is said to have bought other coffee machines that were also up for sale.

Also a big sale hit were a glass-topped U-shaped boardroom table, 20 executive leather chairs, a magazine stand and a flip-chart, which sold for a collective R242 000.

Pieter Geldenhuys, of Bidders Choice, said while the headquar-

ters, Smart Global Campus, were sold for R14m, there was hope that the new owners, Fidelity Security, would retain some staff.

"There remains a chance that some of the staff working on the campus may be retained. Should this transpire, it would be wonderful news for the festive season," said Geldenhuys.

The Lindela Repatriation Centre sold for R60m. "Considering that the premises were well maintained and purpose built, should the buyer want to take over the contract for the centre with the government, the return on investment could be handsome," Geldenhuys said.

He said that the Rodcor copper plant was sold for R11.5m "to be commissioned". Geldenhuys added that negotiations were underway with other interested buyers. IOL

Considering that the premises were well maintained and purpose built, should the buyer want to take over the contract for the centre with the government, the return on investment could be handsome

Girl rescued with help of friend

JOHANNESBURG - Two children, aged five and six when they were kidnapped and raped, have helped convict their attacker.

Mlungiseleli Patrick Tyane, 51, of New Brighton in Port Elizabeth, was found guilty on two counts of rape, two of kidnapping and one of attempted murder on Tuesday, reports Herald Live. The crimes were committed on September 20 2017.

Port Elizabeth High Court Judge Irma Schoeman commended the testimony of Tyane's victims, saying their powers of observation showed them to be reliable and honest witnesses. "No criticism could be levelled against their evidence. [Their] powers of observation are acute.

[They] could remember how [Tyane] tied them up and with what. [The five-year-old] could describe the furniture in the shack and even the colour of the cupboard as depicted in the photo album. [They] could give a description [of Tyane] after two years and could remember his name," Schoeman said.

Tyane had lured the two girls to his shack, where he forced them to undress, tied them up and raped them.

He then took the six-year-old to a field near the Ford Stadium in New Brighton, where he stabbed her 10 times in the head, neck, face and right hand, and left her for dead under a heap of rubbish.

Times Live

'Ramaphosa has no clue on what is to be done'

JOHANNESBURG - As the country endures intensive power cuts due to Eskom's problems with electricity generation, EFF deputy leader Floyd Shivambu says President Cyril Ramaphosa has "no clue" how to resolve the issue.

Shivambu is the latest politician to weigh in on the crisis and take shots at Ramaphosa, who cut short his planned two-day trip to Egypt amid calls for him to deal with the ongoing load-shedding crisis.

Times Live reported that Ramaphosa was set to fly back to SA later on the same day as his arrival in Egypt, after the DA blasted him for handling the issue via cellphone. In a series of tweets,



NO CLUE: President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Shivambu fired shots at Ramaphosa and Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan, who said load-shedding was not a big crisis but a "manageable crisis". "Be rest assured that if he ever speaks, he'll start by saying, 'I've listened to Minister Gordhan and I agree

with him on the challenges and solutions to Eskom crisis", said Shivambu, before saying that the country was "leaderless". "Is there anything the 'president' knows though?" asked Shivambu. In his recent weekly newsletter, Ramaphosa said when he visited Medupi Power Station for the first time two weeks ago, he was struck by how huge it is and called it "a fitting symbol of the importance of our state-owned enterprises".

This despite, when he was the deputy president, Ramaphosa was appointed by former president Jacob Zuma to oversee the turnaround of the power utility and other state-owned entities in 2014. Times Live

Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

City of Tshwane counts cost of flooding

PRETORIA - Tshwane is counting the heavy cost caused by downpours which have battered the capital in the past few days.

Hundreds of people have been left homeless and infrastructure severely damaged. At Eerste Fabrieke informal settlement in Mamelodi, where an estimated 700 shacks were wiped out by flash floods on Monday, many residents were yesterday rebuilding their homes.

Displaced residents had been accommodated in community halls and churches around Mamelodi. But along Tsamaya Road yesterday, residents were mopping up floors and repairing what they could of their shacks. Goitseman Setlago, who has been living there for two years, said she was woken by a pungent smell from the river and a loud noise on Monday morning. When she went outside to investigate she realised that "it was time to run. It was around 7am when I heard lots of commotion and a terrible smell. I was sleeping with my



three children." She was among the residents trying to salvage what was left of her belongings yesterday in the area where the row of shacks had been swept away or reduced to debris. The river bank shifted and part of it is now in her

kitchen. "What can I do? I had to come back home here and fix my shack for my babies. The government said it was only able to help us for 48 hours, and then what will happen to us?"

Pretoria News

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DOC:20963



Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise LTD
LOWER USUTHU SMALLHOLDER IRRIGATION PROJECT

TENDER NO. ESWADE/0435: SERVICE OF HYDRAULIC EQUIPMENT AND VALVES

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified M3 - M4, MS3 - MS4 Contractors, registered with the Construction Industry Council of Eswatini (CIC) under category (Mechanical Works Specialist Contractors), wishing to tender for the Service of Hydraulic Equipment and Valves. Tenders will only be accepted from a company which has 60% of the controlling shares owned by Swazi citizens.

A E350-00 non-refundable deposit is required from a prospective tenderer on issue of the tender document. Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques made out to "ESWADE" will be accepted.

Queries relating to the issue of these documents, administrative and technical matters may be addressed to Mr Musa Masilela, Tel No. 2344 1873 or 2344 1671/2/3, Fax No. 2344 1665, e-mail musa@swade.co.sz.

Bid Reference No.	ESWADE/0435
Date of commencement of sale of tender documents	13 th December 2019 (Tenders will be sold between 08:30 and 15:00)
Tender Documents will be sold at:	ESWADE-LUSIP Siphofaneni Office
Last date of sale of tender documents	17 th January 2020 at 09:00hrs
Deadline for Submission of Bids and Opening of Proposals.	17 th January 2020 at 10:00hrs.
Address for Submission of Bids and Public Opening of Bids.	ESWADE Headquarters, Mhilibhi St., 3 rd Floor MVA Building, Mbabane, Eswatini.
Tender opening session	17 th January 2020 at 10:05hrs.

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the ESWADE Head Office and the envelope should only show the Project Name, Project Number and addressed to:

Chairman of the Tender Board
Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)
MVA Building, 3rd Floor
Mbabane
Eswatini

Any actions or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer. Telegraphic, telephonic, telex, facsimile, e-mail and late tenders will not be accepted. ESWADE will accept no responsibility for the late delivery of tenders by courier services or any other means.

ESWADE does not bind herself to accept the lowest or any tender.

DOC:20966



Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise LTD
LOWER USUTHU SMALLHOLDER IRRIGATION PROJECT

DAM INSTRUMENTS SERVICE AND REPAIR
CONTRACT NO.: ESWADE 0440

INVITATION TO TENDER

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified Electrical and Electronics Contractors, registered with the Construction Industry Council of Eswatini (CIC) under category (Electrical Works Specialist Contractors), wishing to tender for the Dam Instruments Service and Repair. Tenders will only be accepted from a company which has 60% of the controlling shares are owned by Swazi citizens.

A E350-00 non-refundable deposit is required from a prospective tenderer on issue of the tender document. Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques made out to "ESWADE" will be accepted.

Queries relating to the issue of these documents, administrative and technical matters may be addressed to Mr Musa Masilela, Tel No. 2344 1873 or 2344 1671/2/3, Fax No. 2344 1665, e-mail musa@swade.co.sz.

Bid Reference No.	ESWADE/0440
Date of commencement of sale of tender documents	13 th December 2019 (Tenders will be sold between 08:30 and 15:00)
Tender Documents will be sold at:	ESWADE-LUSIP Siphofaneni Office
Last date of sale of tender documents	15 th January 2020 at 09:00hrs
Deadline for Submission of Bids and Opening of Proposals.	15 th January 2020 at 10:05hrs.
Address for Submission of Bids and Public Opening of Bids.	ESWADE Headquarters, Mhilibhi St., 3 rd Floor MVA Building, Mbabane, Eswatini.
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ESWADE does not bind herself to accept the lowest or any tender.

Doc:20965

Focus on World News

Global News

'THE CHARGES AGAINST ME ARE VERY WEAK'

WASHINGTON - Donald Trump on Tuesday slammed the impeachment charges against him as 'very weak' and claimed Republicans are united with him.

"The Republicans have started to gather and this is a witch hunt and is a terrible thing but even the Democrats couldn't find very much because they put up new articles that frankly are very weak and they are very weak," the president said as he left the White House for a campaign rally in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

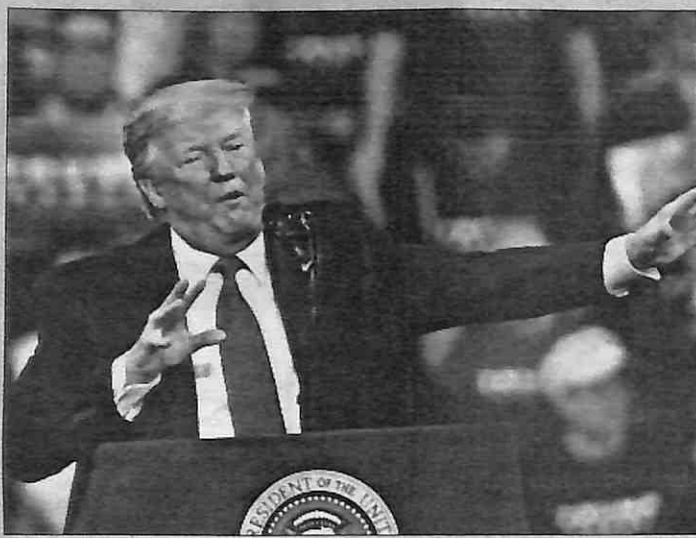
He claimed Republicans were leading in the polls as new numbers out on Tuesday from Firehouse Strategies had Trump struggling in the battleground states of Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

"We are way ahead of everybody," the president said.

He repeated his argument he did 'absolutely nothing' wrong in his dealings with the Ukraine.

"There was absolutely nothing done wrong," Trump said.

And he said he had no idea when House Democrats would hold a full vote in the House on the two articles of impeachment against him -



MY VIEW: US President Donald Trump.

one for abuse of power and one for obstruction of Congress.

"I don't know when they're going to vote.

Who knows," Trump said.

The president will participate in some form when the Senate tries the impeachment case against him, the White House announced as the

administration expressed confidence the president would be exonerated.

"The announcement of two baseless articles of impeachment does not hurt the president, it hurts the American people, who expect their elected officials to work on their behalf to strengthen our Nation.

The president will address these

false charges in the Senate and expects to be fully exonerated, because he did nothing wrong," Press Secretary Stephanie Grisham said in a statement after Democrats formally announced their impeachment charges.

It's unclear how the president will launch his defence in the upper chamber. He could delegate the matter to his lawyers.

White House counsel Pat Cipollone met with Republican senators about impeachment earlier this month.

Trump, for his part, has already launched his defence using his favourite method of communication: Twitter.

The White House focus on the Senate, which is the next stage in the impeachment process, indicates the administration has accepted the foregone conclusion that Trump will become the third president in American history to be impeached.

The Democratic-controlled House is expected to take up a formal impeachment vote next week - where it is expected to pass - and then the battle moves to the the Republican-controlled Senate.

Daily Mail

Belgian prodigy drops out of university

OSTEND - A nine-year-old Belgian boy who was due to graduate in electrical engineering has dropped out of his Dutch university due to a dispute over the end date of his degree, his father said on Tuesday.

Young prodigy Laurent Simons hit the headlines worldwide when it emerged he was on course to receive his degree from the Eindhoven University of Technology this month and become one of the world's youngest graduates.

But his father Alexander told AFP he had now quit because the university wanted to delay his degree until next year, while insisting his son now had new plans.

"Today he already got two offers from foreign universities," Alexander Simons said.

Regret

"We have good times ahead of us."

The university said in a statement that it had suggested a timetable that would have allowed him to finish in mid-2020, which would have been "in any case a very fast timetable."

"His parents decided not to accept this plan and to end his studies here. We regret that," it said.

"His father repeatedly said he wanted his son to get his degree at the age of nine," which would have meant Laurent had to complete a three-year course in the space of just 10 months, the university said.

"Laurent is an unprecedentedly talented boy whose way of working is exceptional. Nevertheless, the university did not believe that this end date was feasible given the number of exams Laurent had to pass before his 10th birthday on December 26."

Born to a Belgian father and Dutch mother, Laurent was for the early part of his life raised by his grandparents in the Belgian coastal resort of Ostend.

Starting school at four, he completed primary in a year and a half. It has taken him just five years to go through primary and secondary school and university.

Laurent told AFP in November that he eventually wanted to "make artificial organs to prolong life" - while adding that his hobbies also included TV and his pet dog.

AFP

FINLAND - Finland's Parliament has chosen Sanna Marin as the country's new prime minister, making the 34-year-old the world's youngest sitting head of government.

Marin took office in Helsinki yesterday as the head of a five-party, centre-left coalition alongside four other parties all headed by women - three of whom are in their early 30s.

The 200-seat Eduskunta Parliament approved Marin in a 99-70 vote. The government has a comfortable majority of 117 seats.

Marin's new Finance Minister, Katri Kulmuni, is even younger at 32, and only one of her coalition partners is

World's youngest prime minister sworn-in



HISTORY-MAKER: Thirty-four-year-old Sanna Marin is heading a five-party, centre-left coalition all lead by women (r). Marin (inset, chairing her first government meeting in Helsinki and speaking during a press conference, (l) was chosen by Finland's Parliament to be the country's new prime minister.

over 35. Marin had previously served as the minister for transport and com-

munication since June this year. The previous youngest world state leader

was Oleksiy Honcharuk, the current Prime Minister of Ukraine, who was appointed at the age of 35 by comedian-turned-president Volodymyr Zelensky in August. Despite making global headlines, Marin deflected questions about the international attention she has received over becoming the world's youngest premier. She told reporters outside Parliament: "My own thoughts have been on practical things and this week, I haven't followed what the press have been writing very much either at home or abroad."

Daily Mail

BRIEFS

Volcano still too dangerous

SYDNEY - The smouldering New Zealand volcano that killed at least six people is still too dangerous for emergency teams to recover bodies from, police said yesterday, warning that many tourists who escaped the island were so badly burned they were not yet out of danger. The official death toll after Monday's explosion on White Island climbed to six late on Tuesday when another victim died in hospital. The bodies of eight more people are believed to be on the island, but it is still too dangerous for the teams of rescuers to travel there and for forensic pathologists, odontologists and other victim identification experts to begin their work. *AFP*

Investigators discover 17 bodies

MEXICO - Mexican authorities canvassing an area for missing persons unearthed a secret mass grave with 17 bodies, including a missing former police officer. The shocking discovery was made last Thursday near a pre-school and high school in Irapuato, a city in the central state of Guanajuato. Among the victims found inside the clandestine pit was 38-year-old Antonio Ramirez Delgado, according to several Mexican news outlets. The other victims have yet to be identified. Ramirez Delgado's daughter, a high school pupil, penned a heartfelt note for the ex-officer, who last seen two weeks ago. *Daily Mail*

Church nativity scene depicts Holy Family

CALIFORNIA - A Methodist Church in Southern California has turned a classic Christmas tradition - the Nativity scene depicting the birth of Jesus - into a statement about immigration by putting the Holy Family in cages. The United Methodist Church in Claremont, about 30 miles east of Los Angeles, built the display last weekend to draw attention to the plight of migrants and refugees in the United States. "We don't see this as political at all, we see this as theological," said the church's pastor, Reverend Karen Clark Ristine. *Reuters*

Cosby loses appeal to overturn conviction

CALIFORNIA - Bill Cosby lost his appeal to overturn his 2018 sexual assault conviction on Tuesday when a Pennsylvania appeals court rejected his lawyers' argument that the trial judge had deprived him of a fair trial, a court filing showed. Dozens of women have accused Cosby, 82, who was once best known for a family-friendly brand of comedy that presented him as the lovable father in the 1980s television series 'The Cosby Show,' of sexual assault over several decades. *Reuters*

WITH: Simon Shabangu

CHURCH NEWS



GOD NEVER FAILS CELEBRATES 17 YRS

'DO not come down from the mountain'. These were the words of wisdom from Reverend Simon Gumbi directed to his spiritual son Bishop ND Nhlapho.

He was speaking during God Never Fails 17th anniversary held in their Witbank branch over the weekend.

The church brought together congregants from all their branches around South African, including the Eswatini branch.

Reverend Gumbi said as the church grows, GNF brethren would face more challenges which require that they fight those from an advantaged position.

He told the bishop and congregation that they have to be strong in the Lord to withstand the challenges.

He stated that some of the forces would even come from within as the devil does not want to see the work of God prosper.

Reverend Gumbi is Bishop Nhlapho's spiritual father and has provided wise counsel to him since he started the ministry. Last year's celebration was held at their other branch in Johannesburg Alexander Lombard West where Reverend Gumbi was also in attendance.

Emaswati also travelled in numbers to be part of the celebration which was also characterised by music as the different branches rendered performances. The celebration attracted over 5 000 congregants from different parts of South Africa and beyond. GNF Church now has a branch even in the UK.

The church, founded by Bishop ND Nhlapho continues to soar, open more branches and build permanent structures.

Speaking at the event, Bishop Nhlapho said God had sustained them as He continues to bless the church with more branches and more members.

He said this milestone was attained not by his wisdom but the grace of God. The bishop told the congregation that the anniversary events would continue to be bigger as they introduce new activities. "We will continue to raise the standard which will eventually attract even the



WE PRAY FOR YOU: Bishop Nhlapho and his wife receiving a protection prayer from the anointed men of God. This was during GNF's 17th anniversary in Witbank over the weekend. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

local media who will beg us for coverage," he said.

Meanwhile, Madam Bishop said the church had attained so much through God's grace. She said when they started the ministry back in 2002, they did not know it would turn out to be this big. She said it has not been an easy journey but they took it one day at a time and continued to pray more as God does wonders for the ministry.

"We now understand why God commanded us to start this work because we're reaping the fruits of all the sacrifices we made. We are

proud that we now have such a big family which comes from all over the country and beyond. You are the reason we are here today.

"We thank God for the anointing He has bestowed upon the bishop which has seen the church expand to become such a huge and respectable ministry within a space of 17 years. We say thank you God," she added.

The anniversary was attended by a number of ministers and pastors from all the GNF branches. Also in attendance were Dr Elijah Maswangayi, Reverend Msiza and Bishop Nash Shongwe from Divine Healing Ministries.

It's all systems go for 'Strategies of Finishing Strong Gathering'

THE 'Strategies of Finishing Strong Gathering' hosted by Apostle Justice Dlamini kicks off this evening.

He said the services would be held at their Worship Centre Dome at Eveni in Mbabane starting from today until Sunday.

He said they would start at 6pm until late for both this evening and tomorrow with the Saturday programme having three sessions starting from 11am to 2pm and another one at 7pm.

Founder of Solid Rock Church of God in Dublin, Apostle Immanuel Might and Apostle Wayne Singh from Winners Church in South Africa are special guests at the four-day service.

He said the services were open to all believers who would love to come and benefit from sermons delivered by the anointed men of God who will join him in sharing the Word of God with brethren.

He said the men of God will also take time to pray for the sick and deliver people from the many challenges they are faced with.

This is meant to prepare God's people to end 2019 on a high note and start the New Year as rejuvenated individuals.



ALL SET: Apostle Justice Dlamini.

The Great Commission Foundation presents Youth Evangelism Explosion

BY FUTHIE DLAMINI

THE Great Commission Foundation, a 100 per cent Eswatini based non-profit Christian organisation will, on Saturday, host a Youth Evangelism Explosion.

This life-changing experience, sponsored by Destiny Music, PV Construction, Premier Bakeries, JustPrint, Yaluna Events, and Ballons Boutique, is scheduled to commence with a guided awareness walk from the Manzini Traffic Circle at 9am, through Nkoseluhla Street and culminate in a catalog of activities at the Manzini Millennium Park. The theme is #ChooseRightChooseLifeChooseChrist.

The activities of the day will include music, poetry, word of wisdom, talk from various organisations including the Department of Domestic Violence



COME ONE, COME ALL: Cebile Mavuso.

of the REPS and Word of God by Bishop J.V Hlatshwako of Rest in Christ Ministries.

The public and participants are kindly requested if possible, to be clad in white T-shirts and blue jeans. Cebile Mavuso,

the event's overseer, said this initiative's purpose was to carry on the work of Jesus Christ.

"The foundation seeks to carry out the commission that was left by our Lord Jesus Christ before He ascended back to His Father in Heaven; that of going about making disciples of Christ. After being made aware of the value Jesus placed on hurting people, as the Great Commission we have vowed to reach out to every kind of person out there.

"While preaching the Word in all places, we will also get involved in clothing the poor, feeding the hungry, reaching out to those in prison, in hospitals, touching the lives of the hurting people of the world with whom Jesus spent much of His time with when He was here on earth. Our main focus is on child-headed families in all the constituencies of the country, brought about by so many reasons, includ-

ing death through chronic diseases.

"We believe that if we stand up as the church of Christ to adopt such families, groom the head-child, and teach him/her skills that will help them live even after we have left. By so doing we will be preventing them from wasting their lives in a quest of making a living. Instead they will grow up to be a people that fear God and have the truth of God engraved in them as they will be under the care of the church.

They will also grow up to be responsible citizens who are able to put food on the table without relying on wicked people using them for their evil doings, just so they get food. United as the body of Christ, we believe that this is very possible and it will yield great harvest into the Kingdom of God and the future of the nation of Eswatini will be shaped positively into a God-fearing nation."

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OUTGOING 'ZOX' TO BE REPLACED IN 14 DAYS

BY AYANDA DLAMINI

FOLLOWING SWAMA President Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini's decision to step down from his position, it is anticipated that he will be replaced in the next 14 days.

This was revealed by SWAMA Vice-President Lindelwa Mafa through a press statement.

Dlamini resigned with immediate effect on Tuesday where he stated that he made this conscious decision to channel all his focus towards personal obligations and envisaged a busy schedule in the coming year as an active and competitive player in the arts business sector.

The SWAMA National Executive Committee has unanimously accepted his resignation.

"While it came at a time when the industry was in the middle of celebrating the grand success of the third MTN SWAMA Awards held last Saturday, we call upon all artists and our

stakeholders not to panic as prior preparations had been put in place.

"We will continue working with Dlamini, albeit on different terms as our paths would be inextricably interwoven," said the vice-president.

In the meantime, according to Mafa, the SWAMA National Executive Committee shall duly, and constitutionally, elect and unveil a caretaker president at an emergency general meeting for all members to be held within the next 14 days.

Once endorsed, the caretaker president will lead the rest of the executive and the association until it completes its official term of office in November 2020.

"The executive takes this opportunity to wish the former president all the best in his future endeavours, and assures him of its undivided support.

"The industry needs our concerted effort and

collective contribution in ensuring that its growth seen recently is sustained," concluded the vice-president.

In Dlamini's resignation letter, the now former president mentioned that his aspiration had never been to be SWAMA president.

He said it was first and foremost his love for this country and the arts that led him into accepting this beautiful challenge.

"I have always only been driven by my passion and vision to build successful businesses and events within the arts industry so that artists and the many behind the scenes contributors like myself can make a good and sustainable living like other fully-fledged local industries in Eswatini," part of the letter by Dlamini states.



LAUNCH: SwaziBoy Entertainment team, stakeholders and different media houses at the All White Crossover party media launch held at Esibayeni Lodge on Tuesday night.



SPEAKS: SwaziBoy Entertainment Director Mthunzi 'Shadow' Zwane speaking at the launch.

Exclusive All White Crossover party launched

STORIES BY PHETSILE MAMBA

THE inaugural All White Crossover Party has been launched.

Launched on Tuesday evening at Esibayeni Lodge, the All White party is hosted by SwaziBoy Entertainment in partnership with SoGresh Lounge and Esibayeni Lodge.

This exclusive party will be hosted at the Esibayeni Lodge parking lot on December 31 commencing during the day till the next morning.

... Reasonable VVIP packages from E 10 000 per table

Famous for hosting 24-hour and 48-hour parties, SwaziBoy Entertainment this year decided to turn the tables and host an exclusive party for music fanatics.

Speaking at the launch, the Director of the stable Mthunzi Zwane said they went for theme 'All-white' because of the uniqueness of the party. "Our aim is the ambience in terms of the set-up of the show, fashion, good vibes and all white just gives you that different kind of feeling," Zwane said.

Zwane emphasised on the dress code that it is strictly all white and they had a limited number of guests to keep the exclusive memo.

"We want to make sure that our guests are comfortable in their beautiful outfit.

We will have a marquee to bring that VVIP ambience as seen on top-notch festivals," he added.

The line-up will include both finest local and international acts and will be released before the end of the week. Since SwaziBoy is known

for bringing house heads and Sofresh is known for hosting hip-hop artists, they decided that they will bring one of the best from the two stables who are international. They are planning on accommodating everyone; jazz lovers, house, Afro soul fanatics and more. The All White party is also powered by Standard Bank, Sky Vodka and Esibayeni Lodge.

The organisers announced that they are still open for any companies who would like to join this exclusive party.

Reasonable exclusive tickets packages

THERE is VIP Diamond Blue, which has 10 seats costing E10 000.

This package comes with 10 VVIP tickets, finger foods, two Moët Nectar champagne, two Sky Vodka, two Bulldog gin, 24 bottles of Still water, six Cranberry juice and 24 cans of Red Bull.

The Eight seater, VIP package dubbed 'Saphire Blue costs E5 700 and it includes finger foods, a bottle of Moët, Bulldog gin, Sky Vodka, 12 bottles Still water, four bottles Cranberry juice and 12 Red Bulls.

Tanzanite Blue Six seater package VIP costs E4 700 with six VIP tickets, finger foods, a bottle of Moët Nectar, Sky Vodka, Bulldog gin and six Still water.

A Bronze Four seater package costs E3 000 coming with four general tickets, a Moët Nectar champagne, a Sky Vodka, a Bulldog gin, four Still water, four Red Bull and Cranberry juice. General tickets cost E200 and are very limited.

'Somnandi' for Lubombo Regional Crossover show

BY NJABULO DLAMINI

TOP South African maskandi artist Thokozani 'Somnandi' Langa is coming month end for the Lubombo Regional Crossover show at Mayaluka Stadium.

The award winning maskandi artist is known for hit tracks such as *Phuma Kimi*, *Inyakanyaka*, *Bayawusala bekhuluma*, *Wawukhona* (a retributive song for Jacob Zuma haters) and *Iyabiza Induna*, among others.

His being part of the line-up on December 31 was confirmed by chief organiser of the Lubombo Regional Crossover show Reverend Elias Shongwe of the Shongwe and Khuphuka Saved Group fame.

"We are happy to be bringing the maskandi top artist who boasts vast experience in the music industry."

Excitement

Our excitement is derived from the fact that Langa is also a Christian besides being a maskandi artist, meaning he is relevant for this six-to-six gospel show event we are hosting.

"His new album comprises numerous gospel music tracks and that on its own means he is a relevant artist for this show. As local artists rub shoulders and mingle with him, we believe they will be impacted by the experienced SA artist," Rev. Shongwe said.

Other SA artists to grace the event are; Pongola Gospel Wagon and Donny Ngwenyama from Nelspruit.

Local

From the local front will be the likes of Spirit Quest, Shiba and Travellers, Come to Jesus, Lavundlamanti Gospel Group, Ndawonye Christ Worshipers, Simangele Dlamini, Police Gospel Messengers, Maphatsindvuku Nazarene Choir, Make Simelane, Christian Unity Crusade, Insali KaJehova, poet Gedlembane, etc.

Staged under the theme 'Vuka ukhanye Big-Bend,' admission to the show is E50 per head.

'Somnandi' first gained recognition after his music appeared on the South African music show *Ezodumo*.

He signed with Bula Music in 2004

to release his third album. After receiving exposure on national radio and the traditional South African music programme *Ezodumo*, he was nominated for a South African Music Award (SAMA) for both his albums *Ipeni Nephepha* (2005) and *Lishonil' Ilanga* (2006), in the category of Best Maskandi Album and Best Mbaqanga Album, respectively, alongside the Soul Brothers and the late Bhukumuzi Luthuli. The dispute was the subject of Langa's album titled 'Phuma Kimi' released in 2007, which won the SATMA (South African Traditional Music Award) for Best Male Artist in September that year.

He and South African dance artist Black Coffee were recently both recipients of a South African Music Award.

Another Christmas concert underway

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

CLASSICAL Harmonies will be hosting an annual Summer Music Arrangement Christmas Concert which will be held on December 19 in Manzini.

The group consists of only local performers from the chamber choir at Liberty Community Centre.

According to organiser Celumusa Mkhathwa, to make the event successful, they have collaborated with The Bhunu Mall and The Riverstone Mall to allow them to do their Flash Mob to sensitive the masses.

"We will be giving free tickets for children from Tuesdays to Thursdays to all those buying our tickets. The aim of the group is to set the TREND for all the Christmas parties to come this year and people should enjoy it with passion," he said.

He further stated that the group had eight songs prepared for the concert and would also feature few guest performers who are also local musicians, including the likes of Rina Mthethwa, Sky Maggs, The Classic Man, Zweli Msibi, and Destiny.

"For the people that want to buy the tickets before the concert, they can get them from our outlets which are Manzini Shopping Mall in office #11 (Ikhyaya Lethu Production Studios) and Liberty Community Centre in Manzini," he said.

Mkhathwa pleaded with the public to come in numbers to support the event and also enjoy with them. He said this would also help in promoting local art in the kingdom.

He further stated that this was the first event that will henceforth be held annually.

Tickets are being sold at E50 each.



CONFIRMS: Celumusa Mkhathwa.

'UMLILO', 'JERUSALEM' DUBBED CROSSOVER SONGS

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

'UMLILO' by DJ Zinhle and 'Jerusalem' by Master Kaygee have been dubbed as the definite crossover songs for year-end 2019.

'Umlilo' by DJ Zinhle has sent music fanatics into dance mode and at some point it debuted in the country during the annually held Swazi Rally at Riders Ranch.

The song has been making waves in local chill spots and clubs. Last month it was certified multi-platinum after about 5.1 million streams in three months after its release.

DJ Zinhle and Rethabile (Winnie Khumalo's daughter) were presented with a plaque in honour of their achievement at Universal Music

Groups' Night For The Stars award ceremony.

Airplay

Master Kaygee's 'Jerusalem' is also receiving massive airplay and deejays have seemingly grown fond of the track as they include it in their playlists.

Eswatini deejays have voted these songs as the best of the year.

DJ Culolam went for DJ Zinhle's

ABOUT DJ ZINHLE, MASTER KAYGEE

ZINHLE has worked her way up from deejaying part-time while holding a "regular" job to earning over R100 000 per gig.

Despite being one of the most sought-after female females in South Africa, DJ Zinhle is making big moves in the business world.

The theme song to her life should be Independent Women by Destiny's Child because that is exactly what she has been doing for the past decade.

Master KG is the latest to take the music industry by storm. The 22-year-old from Calais village in Tzaneen, Limpopo, was born Kgagelo Moagi.

At 13 years old, he was already playing with beats on a computer bought by his late uncle. He hooked up with DJ Maebela as they experimented with software.

Music took up so much of his time that he would fake illness so he could stay in his bedroom all day making music, until his mother locked his room and chased him off to school.

By the time Master KG gained the confidence to make a career out of making beats, his arsenal was filled to the brim given the years of practice. In 2016 he ventured out with the single Situation which got Limpopo throbbing with excitement.

Umlilo with award winning deejay Zulu D concurring that it will be the crossover song for the year.

Released

DJ Ayacity is vying for 'Jerusalem,' especially because it is a new song to music devotees and the fact that it was released later than other tracks.

Eswatini Club MC Nicky Mamba is also going for 'Jerusalem'.

Micasa Crossover tickets on sale at Computicket

BY AYANDA DLAMINI

COMPUTICKET has been roped in to retail tickets to the Crossover event dubbed "Eswatini Shutdown 2019 Party" to attract revellers from beyond the borders.

This show to feature South African band Micasa, will be held at the Malkems Country Club on December 31.

The organisers of the show said they chose to have tickets on the electronic platform so as to allow people who are outside the country to also access them.

The tickets are retailing at E200 for general pre-sale and E250 at the gate while VIP will retail at E500.

One of the organisers Tammy Mamba said they were excited to disclose that the tickets were made



COMING: South African group Micasa.

available for purchase via Computicket.

"This means you can get them at various Shoprite outlets around the

country and beyond the borders. Due to the interest from people outside the country, we decided to make them available via Computicket.

This event will boost our tourism industry," he said.

The event will also feature *Labantwana Ama Uber* hitmakers SemiTee, Miano and Kammu Dee.

Talents

There is also a very long list of local acts that will also be showcasing their talent on the day.

The event organisers have partnered with Eswatini Tourism Authority, Eswatini National Council of Arts and Culture as well as Barcode Creative, among others.

The event was launched to much pomp last month where the organisers also revealed that they had Destiny Group as a technical partner which means the screens and audio would be at the highest quality level.

The event starts at 6pm until very late.



Celebville

International Celebrity News

RASTA SETS THE RECORD STRAIGHT

...over 'fake' painting of Zozibini Tunzi

SOWETO - Zozibini Tunzi's Miss Universe victory led to tributes from across the nation.

While the nation was busy celebrating Zozibini Tunzi winning the Miss Universe pageant, some social media users were in a spin over a painting allegedly crafted by infamous funeral artist Lebani Sirenje, better known as Rasta.

Zozi beat 90 other women to the Miss Universe title, leading to a flood of congratulations from across Mzansi, including the president.

Rasta has shocked and surprised the nation over the years with his artworks - but this week the internet was truly in meltdown mode when a picture of him holding a portrait of a woman resembling Zozi went viral.

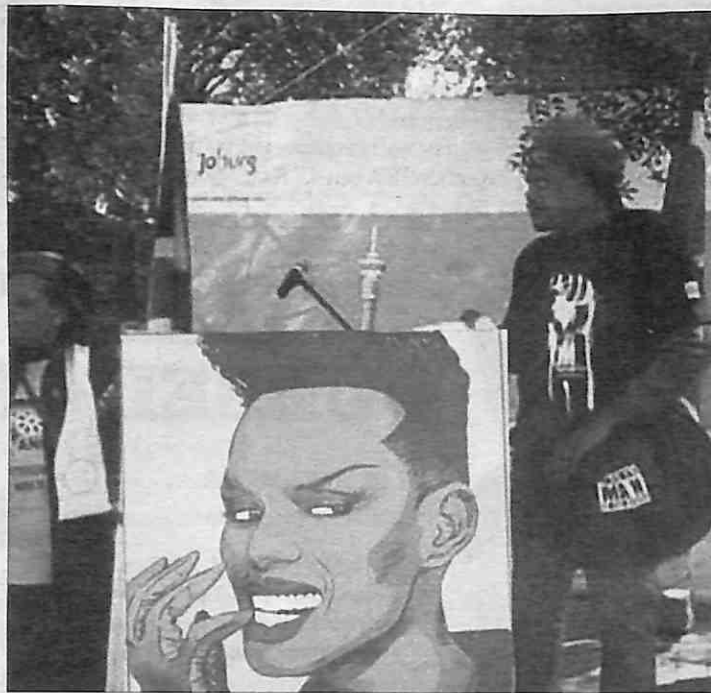
Soon the trends list was flooded with pictures of Rasta and the painting - and gatvol fans telling him where to get off. However, it soon emerged that the picture had been Photoshopped.

A few tell-tale signs made it obvious. For one, the edges are not aligned. More importantly, the painting is clearly of singer Grace Jones.

Even Rasta himself (or at least a Twitter account in his name) shared a snap of the real and Photoshopped images.

"The photo on the left is false. It's [a] Photoshop [image] of the one on [the] right. Please retweet for awareness," he wrote.

Sowetan Live



Beyoncé's father claims she and Kelly Rowland were sexually harassed

HOLLYWOOD - Beyoncé's father Mathew Knowles is opening up about the "poor decision" he made in the early years that allegedly affected his daughter and Kelly Rowland during their Destiny's Child days.

During a sit-down video interview with Vlad TV, to promote his latest book, the 67-year-old talent manager and businessman claimed that Beyoncé and Kelly were victims of sexual harassment by two members of the group Jagged Edge. Knowles alleged the sexual harassment took place when the two groups were on a joint tour in the early 2000s.



However, in the interview, the 67-year-old didn't name the alleged perpetrators.

"Now, remember the girls are minors," Knowles began explaining during the interview. "They're 16-years-old, the guys are 21 and 22-years-old. I have a fiduciary duty with minors, by the law, there's a certain way I have to manage that."

"I got a call from Kelly and Beyoncé... saying that they were constantly being harassed by two of the members in Jagged Edge," he continued. "I couldn't have that. I literally had to put the guys off the bus in Baton Rouge, LA. That began all of this drama." Before Vlad wrapped things up, he asked the talent manager how he handled a group of men trying to "sleep" with his daughter. "We won't talk about that on camera," the businessman said.

Knowles claimed the "drama" took place around the time that Destiny's Child members LaTavia Roberson and LaToya Luckett decided to get their own representation.

"An attorney called me out-of-the-blue to tell me that I would be getting a certified letter... to tell me that, at this point, that he was now on an interim basis managing LaTavia and LaToya," he shared. "And that they would finally go and search for a final manager, but for now he was the interim manager."

As of right now, Beyoncé, Kelly or members from Jagged Edge have yet to address Knowles' claims about sexual harassment taking place during their joint tour.

Sowetan Live

Mihlali Ndamase didn't celebrate Miss Universe

PRETOTIA - Fans criticised Mihlali Ndamase for not congratulating Zozibini Tunzi on being crowned Miss Universe 2019, and she clapped back.

Influencer Mihlali Ndamase has told fans to sit down after they demanded to know why she had not congratulated Zozibini Tunzi on winning the Miss Universe title.

Zozi was the toast of Mzansi after she beat out 90 other women for the Miss Universe title on Sunday. Social media was soon flooded with messages of congratulations for Zozi, with some of the most famous faces in the

land applauding her accomplishment.

Mihlali fans thought she should be among those, and when she took to Twitter to recount problems with her bowels, they asked her why she was staying quiet on the issue.

"Zozibini won Miss Universe. Ain't you gonna say something, Mihlali?" said one fan.

"I'm not your president. Don't ask me nonsense, girl," she said.

Mihlali was not here for the drama and told the fans she shouldn't be expected to congratulate everyone.

Times Live

DAILY SOAPIE DIGEST



SHOCK: Watch Nkunzi on Uzalo tonight.



Phumelele is determined to make her business idea a success. Lillian, feeling sassy and young, decides she wants to go bungee jumping on her birthday.

ISIDINGO

Lincoln turns Claudette's world upside down when he drops a bombshell about a blast from the past. A phone call to Sechaba changes everything for Phindile. Kgothalo has a realisation about herself.



The lines between dreams and reality are blurred when Vho-Masindi is visited by three strange women. James wonders if he has made a mistake by going into partnership with a secretive black horse. Vhangani finds out what Mpfareni has been hiding from him all along.

GENERATIONS

THE LEGACY

Sphe has ulterior motives when she does a favour for someone. Tau is determined to be there for his woman no matter what. Bulelwa is stunned to hear who is waiting for her in her office.



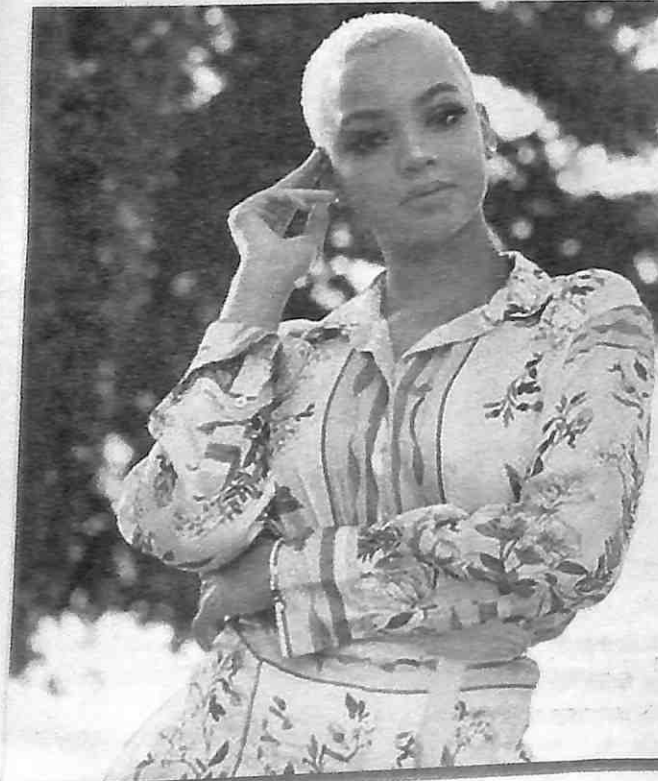
Lincoln turns Claudette's world upside down when he drops a bombshell about a blast from the past. A phone call to Sechaba changes everything for Phindile. Kgothalo has a realisation about herself.



Everyone is protective of their women in KwaMashu. Sbu gets into serious hot water with Fikile. Nkunzi shocks Mondli and his police officers.

SCANDAL

A child seeking the truth arrives and clouds gather for the Langas. Two women are forced to pretend to like each other in order to keep their jobs. A stolen item miraculously reappears and Gloria is appeased.



A person who can view your WhatsApp status & not be seen on the viewers is capable of visiting you at night and not be seen

Follow Us @ No Chill in Mzansi



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn December 22 – January 19

Devote your energies to human psychology today. It's a good day to try to sell your ideas. Concentrate your efforts on those whose help you need. If you have faith in your originality, your sales efforts are likely to pay off. In fact, there is some chance you'll meet an especially dynamic person who can lead you into some fascinating, unexplored territory.



Aquarius January 20 – February 18

There is some likelihood that you'll have an electrifying emotional encounter today. Some of life's more mundane details may trigger arguments that, although violent, are cathartic and short. You've been thinking that it's time for more intensity in your life. Whether you know it or not, you're rethinking all manner of human relationships.



Pisces February 19 – March 20

The current astral configuration could be described as a crisis phase, although today's events won't be unhappy. Communication proves difficult for you. For a long time you've been banking on others noticing and appreciating your talent, but you're beginning to feel like a sucker for being so patient. This would be a good day to confront the powers that stand in your way.



Aries March 21 – April 19

You have a pleasant day ahead. Optimism and creativity prevail. You can avail yourself of all the freedom necessary to encounter happiness. Indeed, that newfound happiness may come in the form of a new person who makes your heart beat faster. Don't fall in love too quickly! There are plenty of opportunities now. A deep and fulfilling commitment will take time to build.



Taurus April 20 – May 20

The day ahead looks promising. Your energy is gradually returning, and you're beginning to feel more enterprising about your domestic life. No doubt today you'll be called on to settle some financial questions related to your domestic needs. While a substantial gift of money or raise would be welcome, you begin to see other ways of making the cash flow rather than trickle.



Gemini May 21 – June 21

Try to imagine that you're in your creative workshop and you've given up using all your usual tools in order to find new ways to give form to your inspiration. Another completely different creative style will emerge. Your admirers may be surprised, but no one will be more astonished than you.



Cancer June 22 – July 22

Your private life is probably in the throes of great change. This change is likely related to profound transformations that are taking place in your behaviour, in particular your nervousness. If your daily or family life seems stifling to you, there's no need to take your frustrations out on loved ones. Look for answers inside.



Leo July 23 – August 22

It wouldn't be surprising if you enrolled in a class that's very different from your normal activities. For example, a surfer may get a sudden urge to learn about computers, or a technology guru might take up flower arranging. Those who think they have you all figured out will be taken off guard by your new spontaneity and sense of adventure.



Virgo August 23 – September 22

Some of the planetary movements are currently helping you understand that the best place to discover treasure isn't always where other people tell you to look. If people are urging you to get interested in activities that don't interest most people, including you, pay them no heed. You'll discover treasure all on your own provided you follow your own calling.



Libra September 23 – October 23

No one's more forward thinking than you now. You're in tune with new inventions and trends, and you may have an irresistible desire to join an avant-garde group. The old way of doing things seems old, and you no longer want any part of it. You can't stand working according to the old principles any more. You're in a heated frame of mind. Be careful about stirring conflict.



Scorpio October 24 – November 21

You couldn't be in a better position in your personal life. The time is ripe to thumb your nose at your demons for the last time. Complexes, guilt, and fears of all kinds are gone. It could even be that the radical "housecleaning" you'll undertake will affect your professional career as you become aware of how much you've been underestimating yourself.

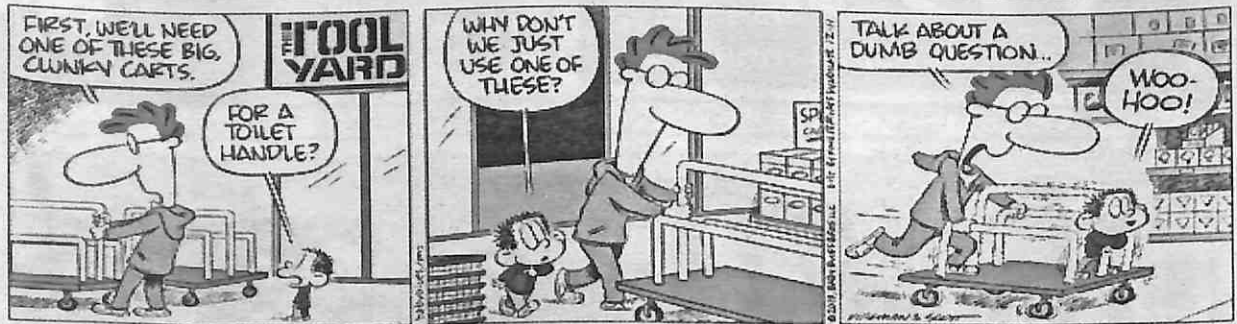


Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

Today's forecast is excellent for you. The celestial bodies can't help but smile on the tempestuous energy of your character. You would be advised to act on your strong intuition. But be prudent in the execution of your actions lest your impulsive spirit stop you from taking recommended precautions.



BABY BLUES



BLONDIE

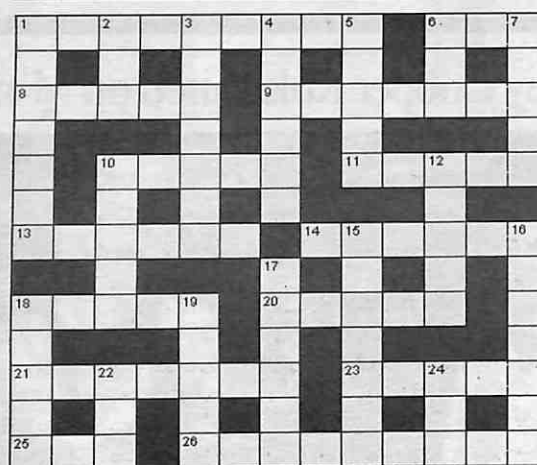


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



Global Word-Fit 23

CRYPTIC 18



Down

- Captain not on frozen water middle of April (7)
- Restaurant bill in database (3)
- Twisted implement let us in (7)
- Game is jumbled pictures (6)
- Some hear lyrics ahead of time (5)
- Part of a circle found in March (3)
- Chose to stop tedium, essentially (5)
- Own up and allow in (5)
- Consumed a number audibly (5)
- Feeling of anger in dumb rage (7)
- Responded and created chaos (7)
- Found the sister's dissertation (6)
- Sounds like a way in to worship (5)
- Mob violence or sit drunkenly (5)
- Sheep discovered in brewery (3)
- Finish in friendly way (3)

Across

- Mix up is over but noticeable (9)
- Discovered the past in pagodas (3)
- Exchange end product of furniture item first with figurehead for a story (5)
- Mixed fruit from a tropic (7)
- Found dais led to part of a church (5)
- Give up harvest? (5)
- Discovered tram blends with leisurely stroll (6)
- Some shun germs in need for food (6)
- Performer in fact or fiction (5)
- Ritual consists of piranha bites (5)
- Found trombone rousing is wearing (7)
- Representative or short man (5)
- Woman from garden found eventually (3)
- Barred and hanging around (9)

LOL

OBSERVING THE BABY

Observing the baby one night a wife found her husband standing over their baby's crib. Silently she watched him. As he stood looking down at the sleeping infant, she saw on his face a mixture of emotions: disbelief, doubt, delight, amaze-

ment, enchantment, scepticism. Touched by this unusual display and the deep emotions it aroused, with eyes glistening she slipped her arm around her husband. "A penny for your thoughts," she said.

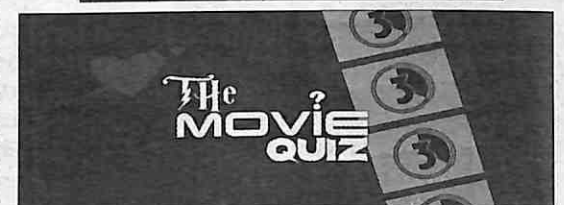
DID YOU KNOW

- At Petrified Forest National Park, visitors sometimes break the rules (and the law) by taking rocks home with them.
- Count von Count's love of numbers isn't just a quirky character trait—in traditional vampire folklore, the bloodsuckers have arithmomania, a compulsion to

- count.
- The manchineel tree is nicknamed the "Tree of Death" for good reason: Touching it can leave chemical burns on your skin, its fruit is toxic, and its bark—when burned—can cause blindness.
- Carly Simon's dad is the Simon of Simon and Schuster.

MOVIE QUIZ

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Yesterday's Quiz

- Among his many films are Good Will Hunting, The Monuments Men, The Adjustment Bureau, and The

Departed.
Answer:
A. Matt Damon

Today's Movie Quiz

- Portrayed Chris Kyle in the film American Sniper.

A. Bradley Cooper B. Nicolas Cage

Answers:



DStv
Feel every moment

NEWS



M-NET PARTNERS FILM ROGUE

M-Net is the local partner of new feature film *Rogue*, starring Megan Fox.

MultiChoice Group's M-Net has partnered with Capstone and Mannequin to produce the new feature film *Rogue*, starring American actress and box-office powerhouse Megan Fox, best known for her role in *Transformers*. Directed by M.J. Bassett (*Deathwatch*, *Strikeback*), the action-adventure film - currently in production in the UK and South Africa - will also feature several top-rated local actors.

Fox will share the screen with award-winning South African-born leading man Greg Kriek, who has more than 50 international screen credits to his name. Sisanda Henna, who recently had African audiences raving about his role as the

villain Inkuzi in M-Net's hit series *Trackers*, also nabbed a part, while Brandon Aurret (*District 9*, *Chappie*, *Still Breathing*) and Jessica Sutton (*Kissing Booth*, *Fort Salem*) are among the other well-known South African cast members. "We are excited to be involved in this feature film project," says Nkateko Mabaso, M-Net CEO. "It slots perfectly into M-Net's mission to be Africa's leading visual storyteller, and to support ventures that give our local talent the opportunity to enjoy worldwide exposure."

Producer and Mannequin exec Delon Bakker goes on to say: "I remember sitting behind the monitor on one of our first days, watching our Director of Photography, Brendan Barnes, frame

up a scene with Brandon, Sisanda, Greg, Jessica, and Megan. As a South African, that was a really proud moment for me."

M-Net holds the rights to distribute *Rogue* to African audiences, and Capstone will finance and distribute the rest of the world. *Rogue* will hit the big screen in America and South Africa in 2020, on a same day release.

Megan Fox portrays Samantha O'Hara, a powerful woman who leads a team of mercenaries in Africa on a mission to rescue a group of kidnapped schoolgirls. When their plan goes South, the mercenaries find themselves out of ammo and lost in the African bush, having to defend themselves against the kidnappers - and angry lions on a revenge killing mission.

FROM an *Alias* ally to inebriated shenanigans in *The Hangover* trilogy, Bradley Cooper's strong start proved that his star was destined to rise.

And it's only continued to rise as he goes from strength to strength in his career. Last year, he proved he's just as adept behind the camera, when he made his stunning directorial debut with *A Star is Born*. It's this film, with incredible performances from the whole cast, that lands on M-Net as your Sunday night movie this weekend.

Now that we've gushed about its multitasking star and director, let's gush some more by looking at his top five roles in an impressive and illustrious career.

Jack Bourdain, *Kitchen Confidential* (2005 - 2006)

This short-lived dramedy series is based on the autobiography of the late, great chef Anthony Bourdain. In the fast-paced restaurant world of sex, drugs, and food, Cooper embodies all the manic energy, madcap talent, and flaming passion that made Bourdain so brilliant.

Patrizio "Pat" Solitano Jr., *Silver Linings Playbook* (2012)

Cooper landed his first Oscar nomination for his moving, sensitive performance as Pat in this sweet romance directed by David O. Russell. He worked with Russell again the following year, as Richie DiMaso in *American Hustle*, landing his second Oscar nomination.

Chris Kyle, *American Sniper* (2014)

Massive physical preparation and training went into Cooper's role in this biopic

Top 5 Bradley Cooper Roles aired on M-net



about US marksman Chris Kyle. But it's not just the physicality of the performance, but the character's harrowing emotional struggle that makes this some of Cooper's most memorable work.

He was deservedly nominated for a Best Actor Oscar, also landing a nomination for Best Picture alongside director Clint Eastwood.

Rocket Raccoon, *Guardians of the Galaxy: Vol. 1*, *Guardians of the Galaxy: Vol. 2*, *Avengers: Infinity War*, *Avengers: Endgame*, *Guardians of the Galaxy: Vol. 3* (2014 - 2021)

It's nigh improbable to find an actor in Hollywood who hasn't left a mark on the superhero universe in some way or another.

But Cooper's mark is one of our favourites. In his excellent voice performance as Rocket in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, you can't even recognise the actor, that is how wholly he embodies the energetic savvy and sarcasm of this fantastic character.

***A Star is Born* (2018)**

Everyone raved about Lady Gaga's performance as the title character in the third remake of the original film. And rightly so. Gaga was amazing as the vulnerable Ally; but Cooper deserves as much praise for his heartrending performance as the fading country music singer Jackson Maine. Added to that, Cooper also sings, directs, and helped write the screenplay.

7th Golden Globe® Award Nominations

Check out the nominees for next year's Golden Globes.

Best Performance by an Actor in a Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television
Christopher Abbott *Catch-22*
Sacha Baron Cohen *The Spy*
Russell Crowe *The Loudest Voice*
Jared Harris *Chemobyl*
Sam Rockwell *Fosse/Verdon*

Best Performance by an Actress in a Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television
Kaitlyn Dever *Unbelievable*
Joey King *The Act*
Helen Mirren *Catherine the Great*
Merritt Wever *Unbelievable*
Michelle Williams *Fosse/Verdon*

Best Television Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television
Catch-22
Chemobyl
Fosse/Verdon
The Loudest Voice
Unbelievable

Best Motion Picture - Foreign Language
The Farewell
Pain and Glory
Portrait of a Lady on Fire
Parasite
Les Misérables

Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Series, Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television
Alan Arkin *The Kominsky Method*
Kieran Culkin *Succession*
Andrew Scott *Fleabag*
Stellan Skarsgård *Chemobyl*
Henry Winkler *Barry*

Best Television Series - Musical or Comedy
Barry
Fleabag
The Kominsky Method
The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel
The Politician

Best Original Score - Motion Picture
Daniel Pemberton *Motherless Brooklyn*
Alexandre Desplat *Little Women*
Hildur Guðnadóttir *Joker*
Thomas Newman *1917*
Randy Newman *Marriage Story*

Best Screenplay - Motion Picture
Noah Baumbach *Marriage Story*
Bong Joon-ho and Han Jin-won *Parasite*
Anthony McCarten *The Two Popes*
Quentin Tarantino *Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood*
Steven Zaillian *The Irishman*

Best Original Song - Motion Picture
"Beautiful Ghosts" *Cats*
"I'm Gonna Love Me Again" *Rocketman*
"Into the Unknown" *Frozen II*
"Spirit" *The Lion King*
"Stand Up" *Harriet*

Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Series, Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television
Patricia Arquette *The Act*
Helena Bonham Carter *The Crown*
Toni Collette *Unbelievable*
Meryl Streep *Big Little Lies*
Emily Watson *Chemobyl*

Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series - Musical or Comedy
Michael Douglas *The Kominsky Method*
Bill Hader *Barry*
Ben Platt *The Politician*
Paul Rudd *Living with Yourself*
Ramy Youssef *Ramy*

Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series - Musical or Comedy
Christina Applegate *Dead to Me*
Rachel Brosnahan *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*
Kirsten Dunst *On Becoming a God in Central Florida*
Natalia Lyonne *Russian Doll*
Phoebe Waller-Bridge *Fleabag*

Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series - Drama
Brian Cox *Succession*
Kit Harington *Game of Thrones*
Rami Malek *Mr. Robot*

Tobias Menzies *The Crown*
Billy Porter *Pose*

Best Screenplay - Motion Picture
Noah Baumbach *Marriage Story*
Bong Joon-ho and Han Jin-won *Parasite*
Anthony McCarten *The Two Popes*
Quentin Tarantino *Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood*
Steven Zaillian *The Irishman*

Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series - Drama
Jennifer Aniston *The Morning Show*
Olivia Colman *The Crown*
Jodie Comer *Killing Eve*
Nicole Kidman *Big Little Lies*
Reese Witherspoon *Big Little Lies*

Best Actor in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture
Tom Hanks *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*
Anthony Hopkins *The Two Popes*
Al Pacino *The Irishman*
Joe Pesci *The Irishman*
Brad Pitt *Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood*

Best Actress in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture
Kathy Bates *Richard Jewell*
Annette Bening *The Report*
Laura Dern *Marriage Story*
Jennifer Lopez *Hustlers*
Margot Robbie *Bombshell*

Best Actor in a Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy
Daniel Craig *Knives Out*
Roman Griffin Davis *Jojo Rabbit*
Leonardo DiCaprio *Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood*
Taron Egerton *Rocketman*
Eddie Murphy *Dolemite Is My Name*

Best Motion Picture - Animated
Frozen II
How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World
Missing Link
Toy Story 4
The Lion King

Best Director - Motion Picture
Bong Joon-ho *Parasite*
Sam Mendes *1917*
Todd Phillips *Joker*
Martin Scorsese *The Irishman*
Quentin Tarantino *Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood*

Best Actor in a Motion Picture - Drama
Christian Bale *Ford v Ferrari*
Antonio Banderas *Pain and Glory*
Adam Driver *Marriage Story*
Joaquin Phoenix *Joker*
Jonathan Pryce *The Two Popes*

Best Actress in a Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy
Awkwafina *The Farewell*
Ana de Armas *Knives Out*
Cate Blanchett *Where'd You Go, Bernadette*
Beanie Feldstein *Booksmart*
Emma Thompson *Late Night*

Best Television Series - Drama
Big Little Lies
The Crown
Killing Eve
The Morning Show
Succession

Best Actress in a Motion Picture - Drama
Cynthia Erivo *Harriet*
Scarlett Johansson *Marriage Story*
Saoirse Ronan *Little Women*
Charlize Theron *Bombshell*
Renée Zellweger *Judy*

Best Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy
Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood
Jojo Rabbit
Knives Out
Rocketman
Dolemite Is My Name

Best Motion Picture - Drama
The Irishman
Marriage Story
1917
Joker
The Two Popes

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Notice is hereby given that I have a reasonable cause to believe that the under mentioned company.

KUDE INVESTMENTS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED

Incorporated under the laws of Eswatini, is not carrying on business. The name of the aforesaid company, will unless cause is shown to the contrary at the end of the two months from the date hereof be deregistered and struck-off the register of companies in the Kingdom of Eswatini, and the company be dissolved.

BARNABAS MATSEBULA
FOR; REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES

R/N 169695

ESTATE LATE: CIJIMPI JOSEPH KHUMALO ESTATE NO. EH 140/2019

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 51 (2) of the Administration of Estates Act No. 28/1902 that the First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account will lie open for inspection at the office of the Master of the High Court of Swaziland, Mbabane branch first floor Miller's Mansion for a period of Twenty One (21) days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any person objecting to the account may lodge his or her objection in writing with the executor and with the Master of the High Court at any time before expiry of the said period.

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DEATHS

Sibongile Hlezphi Vilakati



Funeral: 14/12/19
Vigil: 13/12/2019
Place: Hereford

Kwatiswa tihlobo, umndeni, bangani kanye nalabasebenta nabo kutsi Sibongile Hlezphi Vilakati akasekho emhlabeni, wendlule emhlabeni mhlaka 3 December. Utobekwa endlini yakhe yekuphumula ngemgibelo ekuseni mhlaka 14 December ekhaya kubo e Hereford Esikomu Kajele. Kulindzelwa ngalesihlanu. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Mndeni.

Ginindza Hezekiel Ncamiso



Funeral: 15/12/19
Vigil: No
Place: Luyengo

Relatives and friends of Ginindza Hezekiel Ncamiso known as Mpopoli are notified of His death. He will be laid to rest on Sunday 15/12/2019 at Luyengo, Engwenyameni. No vigil Announcement by his family

Celumusa Ncaba Dlamini 'Dzi'



Funeral: 14/12/19
Vigil: 13/12/2019
Place: eNsenga

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Celumusa Ncaba Dlamini 'Dzi' kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kulindzelwa ngalesihlanu afihlwe ngemgibelo 14/12/2019 ngelisiko lemalingeni, eNsenga. Simemetelo sikhokhwa ngu Elias Bhukumusa Dlamini uyise lomkhulu.

Kellinah Velephi Mamba ula Mbetse



Funeral: 13/12/19
Vigil: 12/12/2019
Place: Enkwalini

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Kellinah Velephi Mamba ula Mbetse kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ekhaya lakhe Enkwalini e Zone 3. Kwatiswa baka Mbhokwe, nebaka Mbetse emantabeni. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Bethulisile Mamba egameni lemndeni. Ufihlwa ngalesihlanu. Umlindzelo ungalesine 12/12/2019

Norah Lomthandazo Ginindza (nee Khumalo)



Funeral: 14/12/19
Vigil: 13/12/2019
Place: kuMahlanya

Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni nabo bonkhe labamatiko Norah Lomthandazo Ginindza (nee Khumalo) kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa ngemgibelo kuMahlanya emva kwemlindzelo wangalesihlanu. Kwatiswa ikakhulu baka Ginindza baka Magongo Elangeni batovula inkonzobaka Khumalo eNtotozi. Simemetelo sikhishwa bantfwa bakhe egameni lemndeni.

Eric Siso Duma



Funeral: 15/12/19
Vigil: 14/12/2019
Place: eNgcoseni

Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wa Eric Siso Duma wase Ngcoseni eMankayane kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa ngeliso ntfo mhlaka 15/12/2019 emva kwemlindzelo ekhaya kubo eNgcoseni eedari kwesibini. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumale wakhe egameni lemndeni.

Sibusiso Kununu Dube



Funeral: 14/12/19
Vigil: No
Place: kaLogoba

Kwatiswa Tihlobo nebangani ba Sibusiso Kununu Dube lobebitwa kakhulu ngekutsi ngu Kununu kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bekhobonina labase Motjane. Utalwa ngu Nonhlanhla Masuku naye losasishiya emhlabeni abetalwa naye ngu Lomalanga Gwebu kaLogoba, naye losasishiya emhlabeni. Utowufihlwa ngemgibelo ekuseni ekhobonina kaLogoba ngemuva kwesilaha (butchery) ngabo 6:00 am. Kute umlindzelo. Utolandwa ka Dups at 4:00 pm kutoba nenkondzo lemfisha khona.



It's almost unbearable when so much hope turns in deep sorrow wishing you much strength

Thoko Elizabeth Dlamini (ula Mamba)



Funeral: 14/12/19
Place: eGundwini

Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wa Thoko Elizabeth Dlamini (ula Mamba) kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Memorial service 13/12/19 time:14:00 pm eSiphula Assemblies of God. Funeral 14/12/19 ekhaya lakhe eGundwini. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Simon Dlamini Indvodza yakhe.

Joseph Amos Masoko



Funeral: 14/12/19
Requiem Mass: 14/12/2019
Place: Mahwalala

Friends and relatives of Joseph Amos Masoko of Nkwalini Zone 3 are notified of his demise. There will be no night vigil. He will be laid to rest at Mahwalala Cemetery on Saturday 14th December following a Requiem Mass at the Mater Dolorosa Parish at 8 am. Rest in Peace Masoko Khubonye.

Florah Ntombazanyane Dlamini nee Fakudze



Funeral: 14/12/19
Vigil: 13/12/19
Place: Mbabane

Relatives and friends of Florah Ntombazanyane Dlamini nee Fakudze known as Gogo F has gone to be with the Lord. Memorial service will be at Mbabane Free Evangelical Assemblies next to Mbabane Clinic starting at 12:00 noon on the 13th December 2019 Friday. Night vigil will start at 9:00 pm at Mbabane Free Evangelical Assemblies.

Bizza Lukhele



Funeral: 15/12/19
Place: Maphungwane

Kwatiswa bonkhe labati Bizza Lukhele usishiye emhlabeni. Ufihlwa mhlaka 15 Ku Maphungwane sitieshi kumafisitolo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Nobile Lukhele.

REST IN PEACE



NOTICE

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UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Klopp hopes Lovren knock not serious

LIVERPOOL - Liverpool Manager Jurgen Klopp is hopeful that defender Dejan Lovren did not pick up a serious injury in the win over RB Salzburg on Tuesday.

Goals by Naby Keita and a sensational strike from Mohamed Salah ensured a 2-0 victory in Austria that booked their passage through to the last 16 of the Champions League.

The one downside to the performance was Lovren suffering yet more injury issues as he was forced off for the second successive match with a hamstring problem.

The manager is hopeful it is only a recurrence of the cramp he suffered at Bournemouth on Saturday, but until he gets the full diagnosis, he cannot say for sure.

"We hope it's exactly the same as the last time he felt something, and we made a decision," Klopp said. "It wasn't cool. He played really well and was very important in those 55 minutes. We don't know at the moment. Like last time, we have to see."

Meanwhile, Klopp hailed a "sensational" goal by Salah.

The Egypt international had missed a hat-trick of relatively simple, by his standards at least, chances but slid home a curling shot from the narrowest of angles which virtually brushed the near post before creeping inside the far upright.

AFP

ANSU FATI MAKES HISTORY

MADRID - Teenage prodigy Ansu Fati became the youngest player to score a Champions League goal as a second-string Barcelona side beat Inter Milan 2-1 to send the Italians crashing out of the competition on Tuesday.

The 17-year-old Guinea-Bissau-born attacker picked up a Luis Suarez cross to fire home four minutes from time to become the youngest player to score in the Champions League. Barcelona were already through to the knockout stages as Group F winners and they left six-time Ballon d'Or winner Lionel Messi at home.

...as Barca send Inter crashing out of Champions League

But Serie A leaders Inter needed a win over the La Liga leaders or to match Borussia Dortmund's result at home to Slavia Prague to qualify on their superior head-to-head record. Instead the Germans made it through to the knockout rounds with a 2-1 win to finish three points ahead of third-placed Inter, who go into the Europa League.

"Seeing replays of Fati's goal hurt," said Inter coach Antonio Conte. "It's a goal that cut our legs from under us and killed us from all points of view."

"We lacked that pinch of cynicism and precision to finish off. I have little to reproach my players, they have given everything." Debutant Carles Perez had put the Spaniards ahead after 23 minutes at the San Siro, but Romelu Lukaku drilled in an equaliser just before the break to keep the hosts in the tie.

AFP

Bitter blow as Ajax's wonder year ends in defeat

LONDON - Ajax Amsterdam coach Erik Ten Hag has said their Champions League elimination was a "bitter blow" and that they had thrown away their chance to reach the knockout stages.

Ajax needed only a draw in their last Group H match at home to Valencia on Tuesday but were beaten 1-0, a result that saw them finish third and dropped them into the Europa

League.

"We were already on the verge of qualifying two games ago already," Ten Hag said, referring to their 4-4 draw at Chelsea in early November when Ajax were three up with less than 30 minutes left to play.

Reuters



NOTICE

WATER INTERRUPTION IN HLUTHI



Eswatini Water Services Corporation would like to notify its valued customers and the public in Hluthi and surrounding areas that there will be an interruption in water supply on **Friday, 13 December 2019** from **10:00am to 2:00pm**. This is due to scheduled cleaning of the **Hluthi and KaMziki** water reservoir.

Affected areas include : **Hluthi Town, KaMziki and Elugaganeni.**

The Corporation regrets any inconvenience that may be caused by the interruption.

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SWAZIMED OPEN DAY

All members of the Swaziland Medical Aid Fund (Swazimed) are invited to an annual Open Day to be held at **S&B Restaurant** on **Saturday, 14th December 2019** at 1000hrs.

Presentations will be on the following;

- 1) Update on the fund performance
- 2) Swazimed Products
- 3) Update on Projects
- 4) Wellness & HIV/AIDS matters

On-site wellness checks and one-on-one query resolutions will be provided.

**PRINCIPAL OFFICER
PM SIMELANE**

South African SOCCER

Khune admits 'other challenges' keeping him from playing

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs goalkeeper Itumeleng Khune has revealed that he is match-fit but "other challenges" have kept him from making his comeback from an injury.

The 32-year-old Khune has not played since limping off injured early in the match against Baroka FC on 28 September.

Amakhosi announced on the website last month that Khune has recovered and is "fully fit" but the shot-stopper has still not been on the field of play.

Daniel Akpeyi has been doing a fine job between the sticks as Amakhosi have maintained their top spot in the PSL standings while Bruce Bvuma has also been standing in.

Khune disclosed on East Coast Radio: "I just want to say that the club released the statement two weeks ago declaring that I am match-fit but again there were challenges I needed to overcome, and I cannot really disclose those challenges. "But I have been training with the team. I have been slowly getting back into the mix. "I have to give credit to Akpeyi, Bruce Bvuma, Brylon Petersen and goalkeeper coach Lee Baxter for having done well in my absence."

TeamTalk Media



SUNDOWNS PART WAYS WITH ARGENTINE TADE

JOHANNESBURG - Mamelodi Sundowns have confirmed the club has parted ways with Argentine forward Emiliano Tade.

Tade asked to be released from his contract, according to Sundowns, and the club obliged, despite the player only arriving from fellow Premier Soccer League side AmaZulu in January "Mamelodi Sundowns' Argentine forward. Emiliano Tade approached the club to be released from his contract and the club has conceded after the player cited personal reasons," the club said in a statement.

"The President, Dr Patrice Motsepe, the board, management, staff, coaches and players wish to thank Emiliano Tade for his contribution and

wish him all the best in his personal and professional endeavours."

Injury

Tade suffered numerous injury set-backs since his arrival at Chloorkop and made just eight appearances in domestic football, five from the start. His only goal came in a 2-1 win over Maritzburg United in March.

He has not featured at all since April and with the arrival of Uruguayan forward Mauricio Affonso, moved further down the pecking order.

Tade was a revelation when he joined AmaZulu at the start of the 2018/19 season, scoring seven goals in half a season before being snapped up by Sundowns. *Mzansi Football*

Highlands Park coach sounds warning to players

JOHANNESBURG - In what can aptly be described as a somersault in fortune, Highlands Park, 'The Lions of the North', have lost their bite and gone eight ABSA Premiership games without a victory after avoiding as much as a single defeat in a previous eight-match spell.

It is a downward slide that has left articulate coach Owen da Gama nothing short of perplexed and frustrated, while asserting that if 'The Lions of the North' do not regain their winning habit in the home ABSA Premiership game against Golden Arrows at Makhulong Stadium on Saturday afternoon, he will cancel his intention to give the team

a break over the festive season and instead implement a rigorous training programme "to get to the bottom of what is an inexplicable decline in results."

"And," added the resolute coach, "if that means no merry Christmas, so let it be."

Sport 24

'Josef who?' ask Pirates fans

JOHANNESBURG - The setting was different, but the reaction was the same when Orlando Pirates announced their coach midway through the season like they did with Kjell Jonevret in February of 2017.

Two years ago, a bemused room full of journalists asked themselves, "Kjell Jonevret who?" when club Chairman Irvin Khoza announced the Swedish coach at Rand Stadium.

That's not entirely true, though; those hacks first struggled with how to spell the name, which led to Jonevret being called 'Shell'.

But unlike the garage, there was no fuel that Jonevret poured into the Pirates ship that was running on empty after being annihilated 6-0 by Mamelodi Sundowns.

It was a disastrous appointment that led to Jonevret resigning in August. The Swede was out of his depth and he was terribly exposed.

Fast forward to Tuesday and the reaction was, "Josef Zinnbauer who?" when the Sea Robbers announced the German as head coach on a three-season contract.

But since this was done on social media, at least journalists and fans could spell his name in their questions of who is this guy entrusted with leading the Buccaneers away from the troubled waters they are stuck in.

Zinnbauer officially replaces Micho Sredojevic, but unofficially his appointment is an indictment on coach Rhulani Mokwena, who was given the job in the interim. *IOL*

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ESWATINI GOVERNMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

ADVERTISEMENT FOR INVITATION TO TENDER

Invitation to Tender for the Supply and Delivery of Dental Supplies

Tender Reference No.5 of 2020/2021

The Ministry of Health now invites sealed Tenders for the provision of Dental Supplies.

Tenders must be accompanied by an Original or certified copy of a receipt for E300 (three hundred), which should be paid at Eswatini Revenue Office account number 451-2101-21990. Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope

The Outer envelope must be marked as follows:
"The Secretary to the Tender Board
Treasury Building
P.O. Box 38
MBABANE"

The Envelope must be clearly marked with the following words; "Ministry of Health, Tender No.5 of 2020/2021 for Supply and Delivery of Dental Supplies to the Dental department "Do not open before Friday the 21st February 2020, 9.00 am"

There will be no pre-tender meeting.

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of Tender Board, Treasury Building, P. O. Box 38, Mbabane, Eswatini, by **Friday the 21st February, 2020** and deposited in the Treasury Tender Box.

Tenders received in time by the latest date and time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building at **9.00 am on Friday the 21st February, 2020**. Late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure.

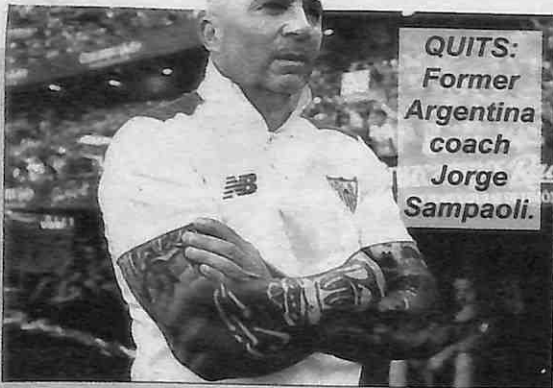
The documents specified in the Instructions to Tenderers including an current original Tax Clearance Certificates for Government tender, copy of Trading Licence, Form J, Form C, Certificate of Incorporation, VAT Registration Certificate, a Police Clearance Certificate or an Affidavit providing that the tenderer, or any of its directors or officers have not been convicted, Labour Compliance Certificate for (for national Tenders) or equivalent for foreign Tenderers, Eswatini National Provident Fund (ENPF) Employers Compliance Clearance Certification for (for national Tenderers) or equivalent for foreign tenderers and Tender Security of E10,000.00 must be enclosed in an envelope and be attached to the tender.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

For further information and collection of tender documents contact the Procurement Unit, at the Central Medical Stores, Plot 77, King Mswati 111 Avenue, Matsapha Industrial Estate, Matsapha, Eswatini. Telephone No: 25184111 / 25184496 / 25184373. Send your request for a soft copy of the bidding document to procurement.swazihealth@gmail.com copy sncedile@gmail.com

SECRETARY TO TENDER BOARD

DOC.20340



QUITS:
Former
Argentina
coach
Jorge
Sampaoli.

SAMPAOLI QUILTS SANTOS AFTER 2ND-PLACE FINISH

RIO - Former Argentina and Chile manager Jorge Sampaoli has resigned as coach of Santos after guiding the club to a second-place finish in the Brazilian league, the club announced Tuesday.

The 59-year-old was under contract until the end of 2020, but according to the Brazilian

press, decided to leave because of his poor relations with the club's president and the shortage of money to strengthen his squad.

"Once the coach communicated the resignation, the case was forwarded to the club's legal and human resources departments," wrote the Sao Paulo State Club in a state-

ment.

The team's highly attacking style made them the sensation of the Brazilian season and carried them to second, 16 points behind Libertadores champions Flamengo, despite a much smaller budget than many other teams.

Citizen

Blatter ready to testify in France

ZURICH - Sepp Blatter, the former president of FIFA, told AFP yesterday that he had opposed awarding the 2020 World Cup to Qatar, but that he has a "clear conscience."

Blatter said he was willing to testify to French prosecutors about the 2010 vote in favour of Qatar.

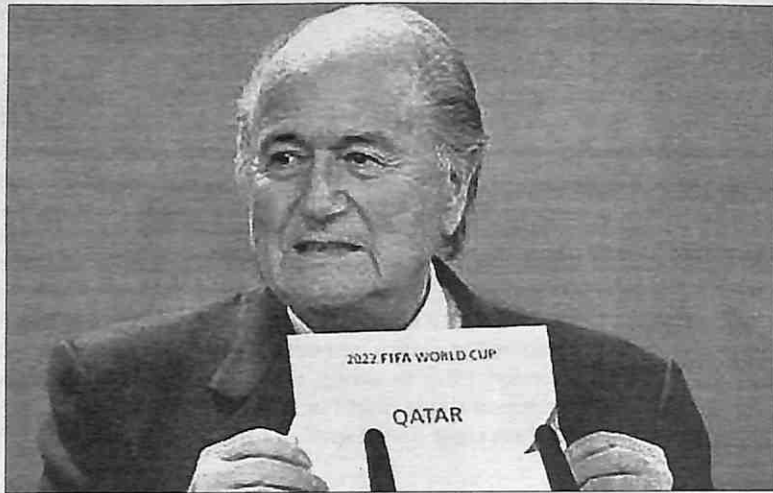
"If they ask me formally then I think I will go to France because I have a clear conscience," said the 83-year-old who already testified in Switzerland in April, 2017, at the request of the French authorities.

Qatar beat Australia, Japan, South Korea and the United States to win the vote. However, the result has been consistently questioned.

A three-year-old French investigation, was recently entrusted to a Paris investigative magistrate charged with looking specifically for "active and passive corruption".

Six months ago, Michael Platini, who was vice-president of FIFA and UEFA president at the time, was questioned about his decision to vote in favour of Qatar.

The investigators are particularly interested in a meeting at the Elysee Palace in Paris on November 23, 2010, just over a week before the vote, between French President Nicolas Sarkozy, Qatari prince Tamim ben Hamad al-Thani - who



TO TESTIFY: Former FIFA president Sepp Blatter.

became Emir in 2013 - and Platini who subsequently voted for Qatar.

"When Platini said that he would have voted for Qatar anyway, especially for the development of football, it is not true," said Blatter.

"We had a consensus within the Executive Committee of FIFA, which planned to award the 2018 World Cup to Russia and the 2022 World Cup to the United States.

"Everything went well until eight days before the election when there was this famous dinner at the Elysee.

"Platini phoned me immediately after. He told me: 'Sepp, it's not going to work, we will have a problem for the election.' President

Sarkozy had asked him, suggested, to vote for Qatar," said Blatter, who reported this telephone conversation to the Swiss judge in April 2017.

"I said to Platini 'Did he force you?' He said 'Not at all, but when a head of state asks you to do something, you do it so I will follow and I will take my friends with me'."

"His friends were the Cypriot Marios Lefkaritis, the Belgian Michel D'Hooghe who would have voted for Qatar anyway, his son having already had a post in Qatar, and the Spaniard Angel Maria Villar. So it made four voices that tipped the vote."

AFP

Liverpool owner Gordon was on board skidded jet

MASSACHUSETTS - Liverpool FC's billionaire owner Mike Gordon was aboard the private jet that closed John Lennon Airport after skidding off the runway.

Gordon was heading into Merseyside from Massachusetts for a series of meetings at the club. His Bombardier BD-700-1A11 Global 6000 jet landed at 6am today but overshot the runway, Mirror Online reports.

A club source said: "Mike is absolutely fine. There were no injuries and he wants to pass on his appreciation to the unbelievable staff at John Lennon Airport and the emergency services for the way they dealt with the incident which made it a non-traumatic experience."

Gordon was said to be "very appreciative" of the care of airport staff and emergency services.

Flights arriving from Salzburg, where Liverpool FC played on Tuesday night, the Isle of Man and Dublin were diverted to Manchester yesterday morning, while planes from Belfast and Amsterdam were cancelled.

Gordon is Fenway Sports Group's second largest shareholder and the organisation's business interests also include the Boston Red Sox.

He is known for avoiding the limelight but oversees the day-to-day running of Anfield.

Liverpool John Lennon Airport cancelled all flights after the private jet veered onto the grass.

Daily Mail



SKIDDED: Liverpool FC's owner Mike Gordon's private jet missed the runway at Liverpool John Lennon Airport.

'Djokovic will be more dangerous in 2020'

LONDON - Goran Ivanisevic is confident Novak Djokovic will be better than ever in 2020.

Djokovic started the season imperiously yet it was Spain's Rafael Nadal who finished it as year-end world number one, knocking the Serbian down to second in the rankings.

And that, according to Ivanisevic, has made Djokovic more motivated than ever to dominate.

"We all have huge expectations, it is always like that when you work with someone like Novak, only titles are good enough," Ivanisevic told Zurnal.

"Finishing the season ranked second, Djokovic will fight even stronger in 2020 to regain the



DANGEROUS PAIR:
Goran Ivanisevic and
Novak Djokovic.

throne.

"We are usually relaxed before the matches, watching funny clips and laughing, with all that changing in a second once he steps on the court," he said.

TeamTalk Media

Graeme Smith accepts role as Acting Director of Cricket

JOHANNESBURG - Cricket South Africa (CSA) and former national captain Graeme Smith confirmed that they have finalised an agreement in terms of which Smith will be appointed Acting Director of Cricket for an interim period.

CSA Acting Chief Executive, Jacques Faul, said: "I am delighted that Graeme has agreed to assist Cricket South Africa up until the IPL next year. Obviously, Graeme has had his concerns during the course of the last few months, but I am pleased to say that we have overcome those concerns and I look forward to working with him to urgently address pressing cricketing matters in particular.

"Graeme is statistically the most

successful test captain in the history of the game," added Faul. "He is a natural leader and his knowledge of the game is second to none. To have him on board to work with the professional cricket arm of CSA, as well as the cricketing pipeline, which is so vital for our game, is a

massive shot in the arm for CSA during this period."

Commenting on his appointment, Smith said: "I've publicly stated a number of times that I would love to assist CSA in this difficult time, particularly in developing this new role of Director of Cricket. I'm still as passionate about South African cricket as I ever was and I'm looking forward to getting stuck into the role. There is a lot of work to be done in the next few weeks and months and my objective will always be to make a positive impact during my tenure."

Cricket SA

ACCEPTS: Acting
Director of
Cricket
Graeme
Smith.





SHUKUMA



ESWATINI

BY DUMISANI NTIWANE (ESRC Media Officer)



Sports poorer without Prince Sobandla

HE was a passionate, ardent and fervent sportsman. That is why we are struggling to come to terms with the passing on of former Minister of Home Affairs, Prince Sobandla.

His ministry encompassed sports, back then and the always jovial prince never hid his passion for sports.

He was a wealth of knowledge.

A walking encyclopaedia. A humble, true son of the soil, His Royal Highness always had time for everyone. He would give an ear to everybody and his love for culture was probably unmatched.

Obviously, local sports are poorer without him. We at the Eswatini Sport and Recreation Council (ESRC) pass our heartfelt condolences to his in laws, his children, his friends

and indeed to the nation at large for such a loss.

We pray that God Almighty will comfort everyone who knew the prince and was touched by him in one way or the other. It is only our Heavenly Father who can bandage those wounds and bleeding hearts at this time of great sorrow.

May Prince Sobandla repose in eternal peace!



REST IN PEACE MLANGENI: Prince Sobandla.

LOCAL SPORTS ON RIGHT TRACK

SHU...SHU.... Shukuma Eswatini! Greetings and welcome to yet another edition of your favourite column, Shukuma Eswatini.

We at the Eswatini Sport and Recreation Council (ESRC) are always proud, delighted and gratified whenever any of the kingdom's national teams conquer in their respective international outings.

The past week has seen a number of our national teams leave an indelible mark in the international stage. Could

...Past week dominated by international victories

it be a sign that local sports have come of age? Whatever the case, we view such positive results as big encouragement. Not all is lost.

Evidenced

There is still hope that we can be a dominant nation in sports, as evidenced by the latest results. We just need to all come together and pull in one direction for us to make headway.

It remains our vision to have a well

regulated and coordinated sport industry that promotes a healthy, passionate, proud and winning nation in sport and recreation.

As we approach the climax of the festive season, this column takes the opportunity to wish the sporting fraternity a safe holiday season. Our athletes are warned not to overindulge but keep themselves fit by training regularly.



Big thumbs up to COSATA Team Eswatini

WE could not be prouder.

The world watched in utter disbelief and awe, as Team Eswatini ruled supreme during the recently ended Confederations of Southern Africa Taekwondo Association (COSATA) Games.

The games were staged at the Mavuso Sports Centre last Saturday. A total of five countries including Mozambique, Lesotho, Botswana and Zimbabwe took part in the exciting games.

Team Eswatini did the country proud

with an impressive haul of 22 medals, earning 73 points in the process

This is what we are demanding as the Eswatini Sport and Recreation Council. It is now time for gold. One of our main programmes, the Podium Performance Programme (PPP) advocates exactly for such.

This is our High Performance Programme of course in collaboration with our partners the Eswatini Olympic Committee. It seeks to create an environment and programmes that will

enhance a high level performance by our local athletes.

Congratulations are in order to Team Eswatini for such a commanding and brave performance.

On the same vein, this column would have committed a grave error in not congratulating racing sensation, Seth Young, who also recently stunned the world by winning his category in South Africa, coming first in a sport that is not so popular in the country. Well done young man!

We are definitely hosting RASA

LAST week, this column did reveal that the country has been tasked with hosting the prestigious RASA next year.

RASA, stands for the Regional Annual Sports Awards, which is the ultimate reward programme of sports in the region.

And yes, we are hosting the awards next year, so get ready.

As a country we hosted our inaugural National Sports Awards in 2017.

The second edition was hosted early this year, in March to be precise and it is those winners that will get the chance of representing the kingdom in RASA. It should, however, be clear that the RASA panel reserves the right to com-

pile the shortlist of the final contestants to compete on the night.

The RASA awards seek to celebrate and honour outstanding athletes, administrators, journalists and coaches in the region.

Showpiece

All 10 member states, Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi will contest what is slowly but surely becoming the region's biggest showpiece.

There are obviously positive spin offs for the country, especially sponsors, who will come on board and support the event.

Anti-Doping Workshop a great success

ONCE again, it is thumbs up to the vibrant Athletics Eswatini, who successfully hosted an Athlete Commissions and Anti-Doping Workshop.

This was last Saturday at the EEC Conference Centre in Manzini, the hub of the kingdom.

Our athletics clubs attended this important workshop in their numbers and we were thrilled to note their active participation.

Doping in sport is a serious offence and we can no longer afford to treat such matters

lightly especially in the wake of the doping scam that rocked the country recently, which saw top Correctional athlete Thandaza Zwane being banned for four years following an out of competition doping violation.

This was the first of its kind to happen in our beautiful kingdom. We are, however, assured that the Athletics Eswatini will keep its eyes on the ball, just like they are doing in a bid to curb this scourge, which has the potential of destroying not just athletics but all sports in the land.

For comments/suggestions and inquiries contact the author at 76691992/79691992/24041590

Or alternatively email to ntiwane@sportsCouncil.org.sz
Our marketing officer Zwakele Simelane can be reached at 76072323/24041590 or email to zwakelegr@gmail.com or zwakele@sportsCouncil.org.sz



WELCOME TO THE BULL'S KRAAL

WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO IMPROVE OUR PERFORMANCE

power to create and the power to destroy. Our limitation is only our imagination and it is in our minds. But if we use appropriate imaginations to give us results, our possibilities become limitless. The power of imagination surely will make us infinite.

Personally I am one individual in support of the Japanese proverb which says; "Vision without action is a daydream. Action without vision is a nightmare." The time is now for us to review and check if we all do understand the team's vision. We need to ask ourselves if our actions are being informed by our vision before applying any mitigating plans to improve our second round performances.



As we getting closer to Christmas Highlanders family may I once again pass my morning greetings to you all.

It is a given that each day holds a surprise for us all *boMagebhula*. What is important though is, let's not be afraid to receive each day's surprise, whether it comes to us as sorrow or as joy. It will open a new place in our hearts, a place where we can welcome new friends and celebrate more fully our shared humanity.

We need to remember not to judge each day by the harvest we reap but by the seeds that we plant. *BoMagebhula* it is also interesting to know that tough times never last, but tough people do. As we conclude our first round may I challenge each one of us to become tough supporters of Mbabane Highlanders.

In terms of the MTN league competition our chance to improve performance is when we start the second round. Highlander's supporters deserve a much improved showing for the team to finish in a respectable position.

This is the time for us to start believing in ourselves for positive results to come. Belief is the ignition switch which can get us off the launching pad. If we believe we can, we probably can do it. If we believe we won't, we most assuredly won't. Belief has the

WE ONCE AGAIN PLAYED A DRAW

BoMagebhula we did not get full points last Sunday mainly because we failed to utilise the chances which we had in the first half. My analysis is that once our striking department is sorted we will win most of our games. On a different note it is proper *boMagebhula* for us to pass our accolades to Tambuti football club who played one of their best games this season. This was a different Tambuti compared to when they were playing Malanti at Somhlolo. The mini violence which we observed nearly spoiled everything.

As Highlanders we don't know how and who started it but we witnessed it. As a team we frown on such barbaric acts in our sports because this is where we come to enjoy not to fight.

JANUARY REGISTRATION & ITS CONFUSION

No army is comprised of all the same kinds of units or types of troops. Actually there is power in diversity. If you always see only one choice, or use only one option, you will surely lose

● As Mbabane Highlanders supporters, we are expected to be true friends of the team. if we are really the true friends of *Sgebhu*, it means we need to accept the teams past performances, continue to support the teams present effort towards winning current games and further encourages our boys for future better performances.

more than you win. This is one driving factor for us to consider beefing up the team in January.

We are all aware *boMagebhula* that January registration normally comes with lots of juicy stories with regards to possible movements of players.

We have already started to hear unconfirmed stories regarding players' movements from one team to another.

Some players' agents apply all kinds of tricks with the sole purpose of increasing the selling price tag of their players and during this process, teams' names are used. Please don't listen much to such news unless confirmed by management officials of Mbabane Highlanders. Our technical team has not yet submitted the list of players for January's possible

signings. *BoMagebhula* it is also not true that we are interested in signing back Allen Mabuza as reported by the Eswatini Observer. My conclusion comments on this topic are that, you will be updated by the management committee if there are issues to do with the signing transfer of any players within the team.

SUPPORTERS' CORNER

A true friend is someone who accepts your past, supports your present and encourages your future. As Mbabane Highlanders supporters, we are expected to be true friends of the team. if we are really the true friends of *Sgebhu*, it means we need to accept the teams past performances, continue to support the teams present effort towards winning current

games and further encourages our boys for future better performances. As we finish the first round we thank you for your support and patience up to this far. This has been a long and challenging mileage for us and player number 12 never left the team, well done. History has taught us that sometimes people leave the team halfway through the woods, others may deceive you to think otherwise if the team's performances are not convincing. This is the time the boys need your support and quitting is not an option.

YOUR COLUMN

To all followers and readers of this column please be advised that it will be published only by the Eswatini Observer on Thursdays. For all your teams' updates get yourself a Eswatini Observer newspaper every Thursday's. Gwaza Nkunzi.



LOBAMBA JUNIORS LEAGUE U10 ONE DAY TOURNAMENT



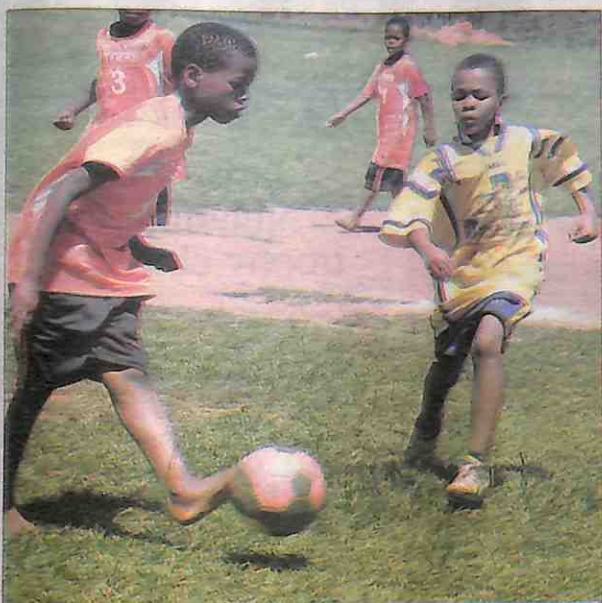
BRAND NEW KIT: Golden Kings Coach being presented with his team's soccer kit for being a champion of the Under 10 One Day Tournament. This was during the Lobamba Juniors League U10 One Day Tournament held on Saturday.



NATSA CEDZA: Due to high temperatures the players drink water to cool themselves.



LADIES CELEBRATION : Tinyosi FC ladies team celebrate one of their wins which made them qualify for the Knockout stage.



MY BALL: The young players having a go at each other during the games.



BRONZE MEDALS: Gunners FC being presented with their bronze medals after defeating Fast Reaction in the losers finals.



KICK THE BALL: Golden Kings defender clears the ball during one of the matches.



BETTER WITH A FOOT: Lobamba Cosmos player during the match.



RUNNERS UP: Vultures FC players receiving their silver medals from the sponsor and HRFA Executive.



HARD LUCK : Vutures FC pose for a group photo with their medals and soccer ball which they won on the day.



GOAL: Ebuka Stars keeper fails to save a penalty from Golden Kings player.



YOUNG LEADER: Golden Kings FC captain being presented with his teams trophy by Lobamba Juniors Secretary Behluli Ndlela; while the HRFA Secretary Ntokozo Tsela and Nkosingiphile Shongwe; All Out Africa Sports coordinators Menzi Masina and Lobamba Juniors Chairman Mzwandile Dlamini look on.



HAIL THE CHAMPIONS: Golden Kings FC pose for a group photo with their new kit after being crowned the Lobamba Juniors U10 One Day Tournament at Lobamba Sports Ground on Saturday.



● Liverpool, Manchester City and Chelsea are among six teams interested in Paris St-Germain's Brazil forward Neymar, 27, and France striker Kylian Mbappe, 20.
(Le Parisien)

● Mbappe has no intention of renewing his PSG contract, which ends in 2022.
(Marca)

● Manchester United are preparing for France midfielder Paul Pogba, 26, to leave the club by signing two replacement central midfielders before next season. Ajax's 22-year-old Netherlands international Donny van de Beek and Atletico Madrid and Spain's Saul Niguez, 25, are among the possibilities.
(Daily Mail)

● Arsenal will also seek formal talks with Ancelotti as they search for a replacement for Unai Emery, who was sacked last month.
(Daily Mail)

● Manchester City need a new defender and head the queue for France centre-back Samuel Umtiti, 26, from Barcelona.
(Teamtalk)

● If they miss out on Umtiti, Manchester City will move for Bournemouth's Nathan Ake, 24, but could face competition from the Netherlands international's former club Chelsea.
(Express)

● Juventus have tabled an opening offer for Chelsea and Brazil attacker Willian, 31, whose contract runs out in the summer.
(Daily Mirror)

● England defender Fikayo Tomori, 21, is close to renewing his contract at Chelsea.
(Goal)

Zlatan Ibrahimovic could make a shock return to the Premier League after Everton offered the 38-year-old former Sweden striker a £4m-a-season deal.
(Express)

● Manchester United may miss out on England midfielder James Maddison, 23, who is close to signing a bumper new contract at Leicester City.
(Mirror)

● Roman Abramovich has turned down an offer from the LA Dodgers owner Todd Boehly to buy Chelsea.
(Telegraph)

● Wolves and Mexico striker Raul Jimenez, 28, says he fancies a move to a bigger club and would like to return to La Liga in the future.
(Mail)

● Inter Milan boss Antonio Conte wants Chelsea's out-of-favour Spain left-back Marcos Alonso, 28, to join him in Italy with Spain winger Pedro, 32, and France striker Olivier Giroud, 33, also likely to leave Stamford Bridge.
(Goal.com)

TWO CONTINENTAL ASSIGNMENTS FOR ESWATINI TAEKWONDO

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

TAEKWONDO - FOLLOWING the 2019 COSATA championships triumph, the Eswatini taekwondo national team will now shift its focus to two continental assignments scheduled for next year.

The country is expected to take part in the 2020 African Senior Championships slated for Tunisia in May before featuring in the 2020 African Cadet's Championships four months later in Senegal.

Teams

This was revealed by the Eswatini Taekwondo Federation Vice President Sizwe Mabuza, who said preparations for the two upcoming competitions were already underway.

"We will likely take part in two competitions next year for both seniors and cadets. Our teams are both training weekly at the Mavuso Sports Centre to try and keep the players in good shape. We want to



WINNERS: Eswatini Taekwondo team after winning the 2019 COSATA championships.
(Courtesy pic)

send 10 athletes to the Senior Championships and 20 for the cadets, the minimum numbers required in any junior competition," he said. The taekwondo national team recent-

ly made the country proud in the SADC region by winning the COSATA Games which were held at the Mavuso Sports Centre over the weekend.

The local side secured 73 points where they received 27 medals (eight gold), (five silver), and (nine bronze) ahead of five regional countries, who also took part in the games.

Nhlangano Chess Club cause upset to win ECL title

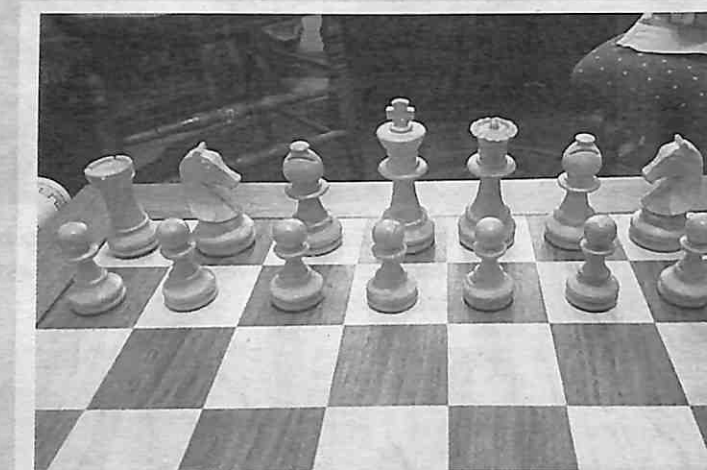
BY JONGILE XUBA

CHESS - NHLANGANO Chess Club caused an upset to win the Elite Chess title during games played at Mater Dolorosa Primary School over the weekend.

A total of eight teams featured in the tournament and it was business as usual for the team from Hhohho region that maintained their third position from week one to week five and suddenly leapfrogging UNESWA and Manzini Chess Clubs for the top spot.

UNESWA Club had a healthy lead going into these games but they capitulated along the way and could only rue their chances of not showing up in week six which allowed Nhlangano and Manzini to take advantage. Eswatini Chess Federation (ECF) Tournament Director William Siame congratulated the champions.

He said consistency throughout the tournament saw Nhlangano winning the title. "I want to congratulate captain Bonginkhosi Simelane and his troops for a job



THE ESWATINI CHESS LEAGUE LOG:

Teams	Games	+	=	-	MP	Pts
Nhlangano	14	10	2	2	22	561/2
Manzini A	14	10	1	3	21	52
UNESWA	14	10	1	3	21	50
Mbabane	13	7	1	5	15	38
Manzini B	14	5	2	7	12	31 1/2
Ngwane	14	3	5	6	11	40
Lovefield	13	0	4	9	4	18 1/2
Lubombo	14	1	2	11	4	18

well done. They showed us that consistency is key," he said. On the same note, Siame mentioned that the National Championships will start tomorrow. The tourna-

ment will end on Sunday which means three games will be played in all the three days. The 2019 Chess Awards ceremony will be held later on the day.

Jarius face Nhlanhla in trophy challenge

BY MELUSI MLOTSHA

POOL - ONFORM Jarius Mhlanga will face-off with Nhlanhla Mndvoti in the Floating Trophy Challenge.

The match is scheduled for Mbabane Express Car Wash tomorrow. The winner will walk away with E1 000 and a trophy.

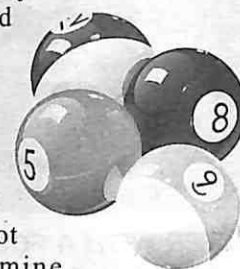
Mhlanga will go into this match oozing with confidence after he ended Nathi 'Bhubesi' Sihlongonyane's dominance last weekend.

Interviewed ahead of the match, Mhlanga said he would approach the match with caution as he would be playing against a tough and motivated player.

"I know I will be facing a motivated player and this means I have to double my effort. I will not undermine him since I know what he is capable of," he said

Meanwhile, in the doubles trophy challenge, the pair of Flag Nxumalo and Eddie Mkhonta will play against Dumsani Mnyakeni and Nathi Hleta.

The champions in the doubles will walk away with E2 000. Express Car Wash coordinator Sicelo Mndzebele said they were looking forward to the games tomorrow and invited pool lovers to come in their numbers for the matches. "We would like to invite pool lovers to come in their great numbers as they will be treated to entertaining matches," he said.



ESWATINI TENNIS JUNIORS OFF TO BENONI

BY COLISILE SACOLO

TENNIS - THE Eswatini National Tennis Association will today send four juniors to participate in the Gauteng East Summer Junior tournament in Benoni.

This was confirmed by Eswatini National Tennis Association Secretary Ncaba Mkhalihi, who said the tournament would start tomorrow ending Monday.

The players to compete are Thando Bhembe (Under-16 category), Uviwe Vilakati (Under-14 boys), Nonqaba Mkhalihi and Sakhizwe Malindzisa

(Top Junior Under-14 girls).

He said the team started their preparations on Monday at Royal Swazi, although there were interruptions due to bad weather conditions.

Mkhalihi said he was hopeful the team would represent the country well.

"These games will be tough as top players from neighbouring countries will also take part in this tournament."

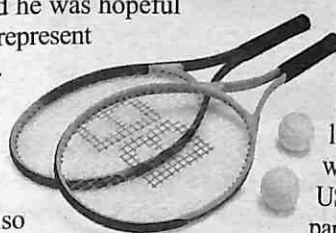
He said these games would be used as preparations for the African

Junior Championships to be held in Namibia in January 9.

Mkhalihi urged the business community to support the sport as they have talented players who could represent the country well if well supported.

"We have players like Hayden Loffler, who is already in the USA where he is taking part in different tournaments."

He said the team needed playing shoes, tennis bags and track suits among other things.



ALLEN NOT FOR SALE - BLACK SWALLOWS

BY MELUSI MLOTSI

SOCCER – PIGG'S Peak Black Swallows has made it clear that their much sought after striker Allen Mabuza is not for sale.

This comes after reports that capital city Mbabane Highlanders and Mbabane Swallows are chasing the signature of the lanky striker ahead of the January transfer window.

Pigg's Peak Black Swallows Chairman Charles Matsebula said they would not accept any local offers as they wanted an international move for the player.

Talks

"I would like to make it clear that Allen is not for sale. It's true that some players might leave the team in January but we are eyeing deals outside the country," he said.

Matsebula added that they were currently engaged in talks with some teams outside the borders. He, however, declined to mention the teams until the

talks were concluded between the parties involved.

Matsebula also refuted claims that he was approached by the two capital city teams about the signature of the player.

Meanwhile, the lanky striker was named Player of the Year last season in the NFD. Currently he has five goals under his belt in the MTN Premier League.

Signed

The player was recently involved in a tug-of-war between capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders and Pigg's Peak Black Swallows.

This was after the capital city giants submitted that Mabuza was their player after he signed a three-year contract with them during the beginning of the 2019/20 season.

The EFA adhoc Players Status Committee headed by Pigg's Peak Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini ruled in favour of Black Swallows in the matter.



Julius Chakupewa joins Citizens

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER – FORMER Manzini Wanderers and Denver Sundowns coach Julius Chakupewa has since found a new home at Mbabane Citizens.

The Zimbabwean coach has agreed to join the capital city side following fruitful talks with club Chairman Mandla Simelane.

Chakupewa is expected to assume his duties before the end of the week where he will be working alongside South African-born mentor Issac Maja. Club Chairman Simelane confirmed the news when reached for comment.

Enlisted

"It is true we have enlisted the services of Chakupewa and we are confident he will add value in the team. We hope he will help the team to compete effectively in all competitions. We are yet to finalise other details including contractual agreements," he said.

Chakupewa has joined the second MTN National First Division side in Citizens following his previous stint with Tambankulu Callies.

FINDS HOME:
Julius Chakupewa.

Chakupewa.

MTN NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION:

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Callies	11	9	1	1	22	7	15	28
Madlenya	11	8	1	2	16	7	9	25
Tinyosi	11	7	3	1	18	5	13	24
Illovo	11	6	3	2	12	6	6	21
Tycoons	11	6	2	3	20	17	3	20
Seven Dreams	11	4	3	4	20	19	1	15
Citizens	11	3	3	5	16	12	4	12
Vovovo	11	3	3	5	10	15	-5	12
Killers	11	2	3	6	9	15	-6	9
Movers	11	2	0	9	15	28	-13	6
Umbelebele	11	1	3	7	6	20	-14	6
Rangers	11	0	3	8	10	25	-15	3

Zamalek maintain lead in RSSC Siyakha League

STORIES BY COLISILE SACOLO

SOCCER – LEADERS Zamalek FC have maintained their position in the RSSC Siyakha North East League following their 2-1 win over Zwelabantu FC.

They are now at 19 points after seven games. Their closest challengers Shewula Professionals beat Free At Last 3-2 to maintain their second position with 16 points.

Both Zamalek and Professionals are unbeaten so far in the campaign. Third placed Bacambi beat XI Stars 3-0 while Summarise got the better of Silver Stars, winning 2-1. Bacambi now have 14 points while fourth placed Summerise have 11 points.

Expense

Juventus recorded their first win at the expense of Shewula Classic whom they beat 4-1. Juventus are now in position nine with six points while Classic are 11th with three points, having managed only one win in seven games.

JB who were not in action this weekend remain rooted at the bottom with two points. In six games they managed two draws and four defeats. In terms of goals, Free At Last have proven to be the high scoring side, having scored 16 goals. They are now at position six with 10 points.

NISELA EXTEND LEAD

SOCCER – NISELA FC beat Matata 4-2 to extend their lead in the Lubombo Southern Zone league.

Nisela, who were tied at 25 points with second placed Richmond Aces, have now accumulated 28 points. The latter are now at 26 points after dropping points in their 2-2 draw against Future Stars.

Crookes are third with 23 points following their 6-0 win over Luvatsi. The latter are pushed to sixth with 17 points. Liverpool have since jumped to the fourth spot after their 2-0 win over Ubombo United. Phafeni remain fifth following their 2-1 defeat at the hands of Young Stars. Other results saw bottom placed Gamula beat Asbestors 1-0 to jump to 15th spot with four points, while the latter was pushed to the basement.

Juluka beat Manyovu 6-2 to jump to the 10th spot with 13 points while Manyovu were pushed to the 11th position. Manzanyama were held to a two-all draw against Black Aces.

Manzini Wanderers Ladies move to top spot

BY COLISILE SACOLO

SOCCER – MANZINI Wanderers ladies

have moved to the top of the Women Football League after beating Langeni 1-0 during their match played at Correctional Sports Ground on Saturday.

The Weslians Ladies have 21 points after seven games which means they have won all their matches so far. Royal Leopard come second with 21 points but have an inferior goal difference to the log leaders and have played more games.

Elangeni are third also with 21 points after eight games while Mbabane Swallows com-

plete the top four bracket with 16 points after 10 games.

Mbekelweni are at the bottom of the log table, having lost all their four games.

Illovo are second from the bottom with one point.

Figures

Kappa Ladies, Happy Girls and S Roses are yet to record double figures as they have seven, six and four points, respectively.

Women Football League Compe-

titions Committee secretary Lucky Dube said they were happy with the progress of the league so far.

WOMEN LEAGUE LOG:

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Manzini Wanderers	7	7	0	0	38	1	37	21
Royal Leopard	9	7	0	2	40	4	36	21
Elangeni	8	7	0	1	25	3	22	21
Mbabane Swallows	10	5	1	4	28	11	17	16
Young Buffaloes	7	5	0	2	35	3	32	15
Green Mamba	9	4	1	4	18	13	5	13
S Diva	9	3	2	4	20	20	0	11
As Inter Ladies	7	3	1	3	5	7	-2	10
Kappa Ladies	7	2	1	4	13	15	-2	7
Happy Girls	8	2	0	6	5	56	-51	6
S Roses	7	1	1	6	5	24	-19	4
Illovo	7	0	1	6	0	50	-50	1
Mbekelweni	4	0	0	4	3	13	-10	0



TO BE LAID TO REST: Ntando Thusi.

THUSI FUNERAL ON SATURDAY

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER – THE late former Green Mamba and Mbabane Highlanders player Ntando Thusi will be laid to rest on Saturday morning at his parental home- stead, Ebulandzeni.

The lanky central midfielder passed away last Friday following a long battle with

an undisclosed illness.

Thusi's elder brother Sihle confirmed the details pertaining his burial yesterday.

Vigil

"The funeral will be on Saturday morning after a night vigil on Friday. People coming to the funeral can drop off at Ekubongeni High School station," he said.

The late Thusi made his Premier League debut during the 2014/15 season at Highlanders where he played under the tutelage of Ernest Mavuso.

He played alongside the likes

of Xolani 'Chocco' Sibandze, Fanelo and Lungelo Tsabedze, Baimba Kamara, Vusumuzi Mashinini before joining the Correctional Services side a season later.

Stationed

At Green Mamba Thusi played during the era of Zimbabwean mentor Lloyd Mutasa with the likes of Njabulo Tfwala and Phinda 'Phrindrix' Dlamini to mention a few.

He was a correctional officer stationed at Matsapha before his death.



TOP: Manzini Wanderers Ladies.

RESULTS

UEFA Champions League

D. Zagreb 1 - 4 Manchester City
Shakhtar Donetsk 0 - 3 Atalanta
ABSA Premiership
Mamelodi Sundowns 3 - 1 Stellenbosch



Eswatini Observer Sports

Your Dedicated Sports Feed

Thursday December 12, 2019



Bull introduce goal allowances for players

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

SOCCKER – WITH only one game left before the end of the first round where they will take on Mbabane Swallows, capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders boss Ally Kgomongwe has reportedly introduced goal allowances for his players.

This is meant to encourage the players to score more goals as they have been struggling to find the back of the net in the MTN Premier League.

Source

Information gathered from a source close to the matter is to the effect that the allowances initiative has already been communicated

to the players.

The source revealed that a player who will score a goal is entitled to E2 000 per game while one who contributes as an assist gets E1 000.

"This will go a long way in motivating the players and enhancing the team's performance in their quest to finish at a respectable position in the log standings," said the source.

When sought for comment, Mbabane Highlanders Communications Officer Bhekisisa Dlamini said he was yet to verify with his superiors the latest developments. "I am not yet aware of the issue you are talking about. I will check with my superiors then get back to you," he said. Meanwhile, the team's head coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati recently said there was no depth in the team for them to compete effectively. The former Mbabane Swallows and Manzini Wanderers gaffer said he would definitely ring changes in the January transfer window.

The black and white side will lock horns with arch-rivals Mbabane Swallows next weekend in what is expected to be an epic clash.

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES:

Wednesday (18/12/19)			
Somhlolo National Stadium			
Young Buffaloes	vs	Black Swallows	3:45pm
Saturday (21/12/19) Somhlolo National Stadium			
Malanti Chiefs	vs	Green Mamba	1:30pm
Milling Hotspurs	vs	Sea Birds	3:30pm
Saturday (21/12/19) Killarney Sports Ground			
Black Swallows	vs	Royal Leopard	3pm
Saturday (21/12/19) Tambankulu Stadium			
Mhlume Peacemakers	vs	Denver Sundowns	3pm
Sunday (22/12/19) Mavuso Sports Centre			
Manzini Wanderers	vs	Tambuli	1:30pm
Moneni Pirates	vs	Young Buffaloes	3:30pm
Sunday (22/12/19) Somhlolo National Stadium			
Mbabane Swallows	vs	Highlanders	3:30pm



...Wanderers delegation to meet Mehluli

SOCCKER – DESPERATE times calls for desperate measures.

This idiom holds true for hub giants Manzini Wanderers as the team allegedly wants to send a delegation to meet Mehluli Nhlengetfwa with a view of convincing him to stay on as the director.

This comes after the alleged stepping down of the team's boss Nhlengetfwa recently. The unceremonious disappearance of Nhlengetfwa gave birth to serious problems in the hub giants. Players are still not paid their November salaries. In October, the players received half pay. The team has suffered consecutive defeats in the MTN Premier League, resulting to the supporters hurling insults to coach Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophe last weekend.

Information gathered from a source close to the team is that the elders met the management committee on Tuesday night where it was discussed that a delegation must be sent to sweet-talk the former boss for a possible change of heart as they believe he is the only solution to the current problems engulfing the once mighty 'Weslians'. "Yes there was a meeting on Tuesday night whereby the elders met the management committee. The agenda of the meeting was to try and locate Nhlengetfwa so that representatives be sent to ask him to come back to the club," said the source. Manzini Wanderers Council of Elders Chairman Joe Nkumane declined to comment. Meanwhile, the maroon and white outfit was relegated to position 10 in the log standings after they forfeited three points and three goals after Malanti Chiefs won their protest against Leon Manyisa. The Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophe-led charges face the unpredictable side Tambuli FC in their last match of the first round next weekend.



More trouble at Wanderers as...

'BHANYAZA' STEPS DOWN

- Resignation comes after on-going financial crisis at hub giants
- Mdluli's quitting comes after that of Finance Manager Sabelo Nxumalo
- MC also threatens to resign due to lies and backbiting

STORIES BY MELUSI MLOTSA

SOCCKER - MANZINI Wanderers Management Committee Chairman Bongani 'Bhanyaza' Mdluli has resigned.

Information gathered is that the chairman resigned on Tuesday night during a meeting attended by all the team's stakeholders. This comes amidst the serious financial challenges that have resulted in the team failing to pay players' salaries.

Mdluli confirmed that he had resigned as club's chairman due to academic commitments. He would not be lost in the club as he would continue rendering his support.

"It is true that I have stepped down as the team's chairman. This is due to the fact that I will be focusing on my studies for the next six months. I will, however, continue supporting Wanderers since it the only team close to my heart," he said.

Mdluli further said the challenges faced by the team could only be resolved through unity among the stakeholders.

Mdluli's stepping down comes after that of Finance Manager Sabelo Nxumalo, who resigned

last month.

Meanwhile, it has been reliably gathered that following the stepping down of 'Bhanyaza,' the team's Management Committee was also threatening to resign en masse.

The team's stakeholders, including the elders, National Supporters Committee, former players and the coach were also aware of the current situation.

"Backstabbing and gossip are killing the club. We have unknown structures in the team who are causing havoc as they spread lies about the current MC. This is a shame and as a result the MC is also on the verge of stepping down," said the source.

The team's Chief Executive Officer Sandile 'Ntofo' Dlamini confirmed that they were on the verge of stepping down due to interference.

"Yes, it is true we are contemplating to quit due to interference from certain forces. Its high time these unknown structures come forward and take over," he said.

Dlamini also mentioned that the issue of salaries was now handled by the elders.

