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A little help keeps Itsoseng for the Aged soccer team kicking

Idah Masae

MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management, Dr Mokgantshang Mpho Motlhabane, fulfilled a long-standing promise he made to elderly women of Ngobi village in Moretele Local Municipality, when he donated a soccer kit and some equipment for their team.

This soccer team, which has already represented the province in various games around the country, had asked the MEC for assistance. Motlhabane approached some businesses in the province and Aganang Consulting Engineers and Vliot RCL Transport eventually helped to put together this Women's Month gift.

The Itsoseng for the Aged soccer team was founded in 2010 with 16 members and it has been growing bigger and stronger every year. It now boasts a total of 33 elderly male and female members, the majority of which are female whose ages range between 45 and 86.



MEC Motlhabane with the Itsoseng for the Aged team in Ngobi village



The Itsoseng for the Aged soccer team demonstrating its skills to the crowd

The team's captain, Nkoko Annah Malebye thanked MEC Motlhabane for the donation. "We are very grateful. Having these resources will enable us to perform even better and stress no more about things we need for the team," she said.

MEC Motlhabane encouraged the elderly to motivate young people. "I hope our youngsters can learn a thing or two from

you. Living an active lifestyle like this helps reduce our forced visits to clinics, hospitals and to the doctors. I heard some of the club members say they are not taking any medication whatsoever. This shows that an active body is possible and less expensive," Motlhabane said.

"Itsoseng for the Aged team must commit themselves to practice and train harder

in order to represent our province well. I thank you for talking to me about the donation and in the same breath, I also like to thank the people who donated the soccer kit and equipment, Aganang Consulting Engineers for their good-heartedness. We came here to fulfill your promise and the smile we see on your faces will remain a proud moment for all of us," said the MEC.

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Operation Basadi bears fruit

ELFAS TORERAI

FIVE people were arrested after women in law enforcement mounted Operation Basadi to clamp down on crime in the Rustenburg and Zeerust policing clusters.

Operation Basadi is a campaign run to commemorate Women's Month and each year, women police officers go all out to fight crime.

The campaign was a partnership of police officers, municipal and provincial traffic cops and officers from the home affairs department.

They managed to arrest five people for trio crimes, other serious crimes and seized some robbed items.

Provincial police spokesperson, Lt-Col Amanda Funani said: "In Rustenburg, Flying Squad members supported by the air-wing unit nabbed three suspects aged between 39 and 42 for possession of a suspected stolen motor vehicle, illegal possession of a firearm, ammunition and possession

of housebreaking implements. Further investigation regarding the suspected stolen motor vehicle, established that it was hijacked in Pretoria," she said.

Funani said in another incident, a 28-year-old suspect was arrested at a roadblock along the N4 road after being found in possession of a firearm and dagga.



Baile Motswenyane

"In Zeerust, another 28-year-old suspect was also arrested at a roadblock in Swartruggens after being found in possession of dagga," she said.

During the operations, 30 traffic fines were issued to errant motorists for a number of traffic violations during the

two operations.

The women's efforts received applause from provincial police commissioner Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane.

She said women in law enforcement can play a leading role in bringing crime levels down.

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Pair held in drug bust

A MAN and a woman have been arrested for possession of dagga with an estimated street value of R15 000 in Ikageng near Potchefstroom.

North West police said they were arrested by Potchefstroom public order police in Extension 7, following a tip-off about suspected dagga dealing.

"Upon conducting a search at the house police found 12 bags of dagga. The suspects, both aged 50, were arrested and are in court today". North West police commissioner Lieutenant-General Baile Motswenyane applauded the community for helping police fight against drugs. - ANA

26/08/17 - Refone Nkomo - POS

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Four life sentences for serial rapist

ELFAS TORERAI

A 31-YEAR-OLD man from Mmakau village, near Brits, was sentenced to four life jail terms for a series of rapes.

The man was sentenced by the Ga-Rankuwa Regional Court for crimes he committed between 2013 and 2014.

Most of the rape incidents happened in and around Mmakau village.

North West police spokesperson, Lt-Col Amanda Funani said the man raped his first victim on March 18 in 2013.

"At the time of the incident, the victim was on her way to the tuck shop when he stopped his vehicle and forced the victim to get inside. He drove to the nearby bushes where he raped her.

"The second victim was attacked on June 7 the same year after the accused threatened and forced her to accompany him to his place where he ultimately raped her. The accused raped his third victim on December 8 in 2013. In this incident, the victim was dragged to the nearby bushes at Tshwara section in Mmakau, where she was raped," Funani said.

The man pounced again on May 30 in 2014 when he raped a minor while she was on her way to school.

"He threatened the victim with a firearm, then dragged her to the nearby bushes where he raped her. He was initially arrested for two cases after an intensive investigation and eventually linked through DNA with two other cases," Funani said. North West police commissioner, Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane applauded the investigating team and other role players.

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'Mbaks is a target now!'

By SIFISO JIMTA

ALTHOUGH he is responsible for keeping law and order in Mzansi, Fikile Mbalula is rumoured to be fearing for his life!

Over the weekend it surfaced that there was a plot to kill the minister of police and his family.

Speaking to *Daily Sun* yesterday, Mbalula said: "The information doesn't come from me. I don't know if it's true or not. The matter will be investigated by the police internally and externally."

City Press has in its possession the report of an undercover project called Project Wonder, which aims to target the minister. The project allegedly involves rogue agents of the crime intelligence unit, the Hawks and SAPS.

According to the report, the cellphones of five ministers have been tapped and there are plans to plant evidence on Mbalula to get him fired. The report also details a plan to use young women to trap him and his senior staff.

However, the minister said he would not be dis-

couraged from cleaning up the police force.

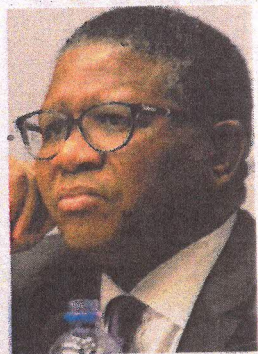
"I am shocked and extremely disappointed that opposition to me has gone this far.

"I have been aware of work difficulties but I didn't think it would grow to potential lawlessness," he said.

"We can't allow bad behaviour in the police. Some elements are trying to pull me away from the task at hand.

"I am focused on the job I have been given by the president and the ANC."

Threats have allegedly also been made against the minister's family. They are now guarded by a VIP protection unit.



Police Minister Fikile Mbalula says he'll clean up the police force in spite of opposition. Photo by Lindile Mbontsi

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Colleagues shocked at cop's arrest

Officer in Brazil jail for drugs

By **Mpho Sibanyoni**

The South African police-woman bust in Brazil for alleged drug smuggling lives in a modest backyard room in Kensington, Johannesburg.

Angela Maluleke, 33, from Giyani in Limpopo, was arrested at São Paulo International Airport, allegedly in possession of six bricks of cocaine in her luggage.

Her arrest came a month after her last-born child had turned one year old.

When Sowetan visited her backyard room yesterday, her silver Mazda 2 was still parked outside where she had left it.

Her landlord George João described Maluleke, who also has a seven-year-old daughter, as a "friendly person whose boyfriend only visited her once".

João said he was excited when she moved in to rent his backyard room in March because he believed that having a police officer at his house

would deter criminals.

"I was charging her R1 500 a month to rent a room, and this amount included electricity and water," he said.

João said Maluleke had not acted suspiciously and he had never seen her in the company of "dubious" people.

"The only people who visited her are her mother, sister and boyfriend, who is the father of the child," he said.

"On Friday her mother, who had come here to look after the kids while Angela had gone to Brazil, was devastated by the news of her arrest," he said.

Police officers at Cleveland police station where Maluleke worked were guarded yesterday, refusing to give too many details about her. The officers, who appeared shocked, referred questions to spokesman Captain Johan Jordaan.

Jordaan said Maluleke was on leave. He would only confirm her rank as constable.

Maluleke's sister, who refused to give her name, declined to comment.

"You are telling me that you are calling in connection with my sister's arrest. Why don't you call her?" she said.



Constable Angela Maluleke was arrested at São Paulo airport allegedly in possession of six bricks of cocaine. / SUPPLIED

Police Minister Fikile Mbalula's spokesman Vuyo Mhaga said the ministry was disappointed by the arrest because it tainted the image of the police.

He said, however, they were pleased that the arrest was made by Interpol SA in conjunction with Brazilian police.

International relations

spokesman Nelson Kgwete said it was unclear when Maluleke would make a court appearance.

A source close to the department said yesterday that authorities were puzzled as to what Maluleke was doing in Brazil.

■ Additional reporting Mcelwa Nchabeleng

E-tolls could go down new road

TEBOGO MONAMA

THE government has proposed new laws following the dismal failure of e-tolling revenue collection from Gauteng motorists who owe more than R6 billion in unpaid tolls.

The purpose of the South African National Roads Agency Limited and National Roads Amendment Bill is to amend previous road acts to address the public outcry which arose as a result of the implementation of the Gauteng Freeway Improvement Project.

When e-tolls were introduced in 2013 as part of the Gauteng Freeway Improvement Project, motorists accused Sanral of not conducting proper consultation.

To ensure this does not happen in other provinces, Sanral is amending the bill that governs e-tolling.

The proposed amendments to the bill will give provincial and municipal governments more power in the implementation of e-tolls.

The amendment bill acknowledges the disastrous consequences in Gauteng and aims to prevent them.

The proposed bill further states that "the manner in which the public consultation process was conducted on this project was not to the satisfaction of the public; there is a need to

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Wayne Duvenage

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The proposed amendments now want to give more power to premiers and municipal governments regarding the roads that will be tolled.

The premier will be given at least 30 days to hear out objections about a road that has been flagged for tolling. If objections are over 55%, the premier will have to call for a referendum within six weeks.

In the amendments, Sanral is also required to, before tolling the roads, identify "an alternative route of comparable distance, which must be a tar road, be maintained adequately, and be suitable for increased usage".

In June, Transport Minister Joe Maswanganyi said that the South African government would again review Gauteng's e-toll policy - in the hope that a better

one can be found.

Organisation Undoing Tax Abuse (Outa) chairperson Wayne Duvenage yesterday welcomed e-toll Plan B and said he believes the amendments will go a long way in protecting motorists. He said it was better for provincial governments to make the decisions instead of the national government.

Duvenage said: "It will be better if the consultations are done by the National Council of Provinces and provinces which are affected.

"This will mean the public is consulted meaningfully unlike in the Gauteng Freeway Project - which is why it failed."

If provinces were consulted, he said, e-tolling would not be implemented like in the case of the Western Cape.

Sanral wanted to toll the N1 and N2 Cape Winelands highways. The City of Cape Town took Sanral to court in 2015 challenging the tolling of the roads.

The court set aside Sanral's decision to toll the roads.

In February, Gauteng Premier David Makhura said the e-tolling system was a mistake and no new tolled roads will be introduced into the province.

It was revealed in Parliament by the Department of Transport in June that more than 70% of the fines issued for e-tolls were not paid by motorists.

E-tolls plan B

- Proper consultation
- Power to local government

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(Outa) chairperson Wayne Duvenage yesterday welcomed the e-toll Plan B and believed the amendments would go a long way in protecting motorists.

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And this, Duvenage thinks, is what will happen in most provinces.

"If they had made proper consultations in Gauteng, we don't believe the roads would have been tolled," he said. "It doesn't mean that the freeway would not have been upgraded - it just would have been paid for differently. It is good that this legislation is coming through."

He said the scheme would likely fail in other provinces.

"I don't think they (other provinces) will ever get e-tolls because they go beyond getting the public to buy in. It goes to the ability to administer the scheme.

"We have a failed eNatis system and we have problems with the administration of traffic fines, and so we believe the context of the environment is one which e-tolling will fail in South Africa," Duvenage said.

He added that while e-tolling in other provinces would not take off, it would also fail further in Gauteng. "We believe the e-tolls in Gauteng will not be around for much longer, and the reason is that the five-year collection tender comes up for renewal in just over a year," he said.

"We believe they won't go out for tender because they are not even



DRIVEN: Wayne Duvenage

E-tolls in Gauteng will not be around for much longer

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