

# Hawkers once again took it to the streets

**MAHIKENG MAIL-MAHIKENG:** The failure by the different stakeholders in the past commitments made between street hawkers, the Mafikeng Police station and Mahikeng Local Municipality Mayor Betty Diakanyo resulted in local hawkers taking action through massive protest action in central Mahikeng last week.

Frustrated hawkers said they were angry because the police and the municipality failed to honour their assurance that they would take action against foreign nationals allegedly involved in a variety of criminal activities in Mahikeng. Their action was to again force foreign nationals to vacate the Mafikeng CBD as they sell drugs, performing illegal abortion and were involved in other criminal activity.

The hawkers were addressed by the station commander of Mafikeng, Kleynhans at the Mafikeng Museum to calm down the protesters as their actions "unnecessarily disturbs the ongoing business in town". The hawkers during an exclusive interview with Mafikeng Mail said, "the foreigners sell products with lesser prices than we do. In fact they actually don't sell tomatoes or whatsoever but

selling drugs. That is why we are so angry and they are doing abortion as well killing our own kids. They don't do this in their own countries and whenever we raise such issues with our government, we are not taken serious so hence we taking this actions to the streets" They urged community members who were part of the protest action to occupy space used by foreign nationals so that they can also start making a living as they no longer wanted foreigners operating in the Mafikeng CBD.



Hawkers gathered in front of the Mafikeng Museum



One of the Mafikeng street Hawkiers pictured with a placard sending a strong message to the police

## Police search for missing persons

POLICE in Lomanyaneng near Mahikeng have appealed for assistance in tracing Banyatsi Joseph Moreole, 44, of Lotlhakane village and 17-year-old Khumo Moremi of Mosiane View, Majemantsho. Anyone with information should contact investigating officers WO Molatlhegi Letshwenyo on 082 455 6078 and Capt Motshegetsi Seleka on 082 374 0269 or call 086 00 10111. - Elfias Torerai

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## 17/05/18 Afro-voice Pgs POS HAWKS Suspected bank robbers held

ELFAS TORERAI

TWO men who made off with R3m after robbing a bank in Klerksdorp on April 11 have been remanded in custody after their bail bid was postponed.

The pair were arrested after North West Hawks teamed up with Gauteng police in apprehending the two suspects.

Welcome Marcus, 50, and Charles Anthony Scheepers, 54, were arrested in Edenvale and Fleurhof near Johannesburg on Sunday.

Hawks provincial spokesperson Capt Tlangelani Rikhotso said: "An intelligence-driven operation by the Hawks' priority violent crimes unit assisted by the Gauteng technical response team led to the arrest of the suspects."

She said the two were linked to a Klerksdorp Nedbank branch incident

where R3m was stolen when two people posed as SBV security officers on a routine cash pickup.

"On April 11, two suspects who were dressed in SBV security uniforms entered the CBD bank premises and collected cash after producing false credentials.

The tracing operation resulted in the recovery of just more than R50 000 from one of the suspect's home.

"Meanwhile, the Priority Crime Specialised Investigations unit of the Hawks has been roped in to conduct financial and asset forfeiture investigations," Rikhotso said.

Marcus and Scheepers appeared in the Klerksdorp Magistrate's Court on Monday facing a theft charge. The case was postponed to May 22 for a bail application.

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