

Destruction of property has sadly been a prominent feature in Ditsobotla service delivery protests



02/05/17 Semphote Pg6 DesfTM P05

Government task team probes violent Ditsobotla protests

Nthusang Lefafa

Bokone Bophirima Premier, Supra Mahumapelo, has appointed a team of five MECs and two Mayors to investigate and find a solution for service delivery challenges that are the source of violent protests in Lichtenburg town and Blydeville township in Ditsobotla Local Municipality. The team is led by MEC Sello Lehari of Education and Sport Development, and has got as its members MECs Fenny Gaolaowe of Local Government and Human Settlements, Dr Mpho Motlhabane of Community Safety and Transport Management, Dr Magome Masike of Health, Wendy Nelson of Finance, Economy and Enterprise Development, Executive Mayor of Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality, Justice Makolomakwa and Ditsobotla Mayor Daniel Buthelezi.

Premier Mahumapelo appealed for calm and urged residents to shun all violent and criminal acts that could hinder

growth and development of their municipality. The Premier requested residents to give the appointed team an opportunity to get to the bottom of their concerns.

"We recognise and respect the residents' right to demonstrate for provision of basic services, but we strongly condemn all acts of violence and criminality during their demonstrations," said Premier Mahumapelo.

The Department of Community Safety and Transport Management also called on protestors to resist from acts of violence and destruction of property when they have concerns. During the protests in Lichtenburg, several trucks were torched, and eight cars including police ones were damaged. The R503 was closed to traffic.

Spokesperson for the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management, Thabo Sematle, said residents must abide by the law when protesting.

"Community members must always make the necessary arrangements when planning protest action and citi-



Even police vehicles were not spared

zens should always respect the Public Gatherings Act in order to ensure that they are protected legally. If the marches are not protected and citizens go on a rampage, there are dire consequences, which include arrest and heavy fines. Community members are advised to engage in dialogue with the municipality," Sematle said.

The department said it is wrong that school children are forcefully removed from classrooms and encouraged to take part in these protests.

Ditsobotla Local Municipality Mayor, Buthelezi, said his door is always open to anybody who's got grievances.

Spokesperson for Department of Local Government and Human Settlements, Ben Bole, said several municipalities in the province struggle with cash flow problems, but said the department has come up with programmes to try and assist them.

"One of the interventions the department has come up with is our revenue enhancement strategy in municipalities. We are coming up with ways of collecting money from residents so that this money can be used to improve service delivery," Bole said.

Police continued to monitor the tense situation this week.

02/05/17 Semphete P97 Des d TM Pos

Woman driver arrested for driving 198km per hour

Rebaone Moeng

Traffic authorities in Bokone Bophirima have arrested a 38-year-old woman for driving at the speed of 198km/h on a 120km/h zone.

The woman, driving a Mercedes Benz, was arrested on the N4 in Mooiwooi on Wednesday morning last week.

Community Safety and Transport Management MEC, Dr Mokgantshang Mpho Motlhabane, complimented the traffic officials who arrested the driver.

"We are making success on removing these suicidal drivers off our roads. We must clamp down on all reckless drivers on our roads. Speed kills and we are not going to allow more blood on our roads because the sad part about these speedsters is that they end up taking the

lives of innocent people by causing accidents," said Motlhabane.

On Saturday of the Easter weekend, a 36-year-old female driver was also arrested for driving at 171km/h on a 120km/h zone. The woman was driving a BMW Z4 on the N14 along the Vryburg to Delareyville road.

MEC Motlhabane said traffic officers would continue utilising speed cameras on all major roads of the province and

anyone who takes a chance would be caught, fined or arrested. He said he hoped that the courts - upon convicting these drivers successfully - would impose stiffer sanctions that would serve as a deterrent to other reckless and speeding drivers.

"Those who want to commit suicide must not do that on our roads. We will do whatever it takes to put them behind bars," warned Motlhabane.

DCS & TM TNA PG 1 02/05/2017 POSITIVE

Coligny boy died from being assaulted, his mother claims

ELFAS TORERA

THE death of a Coligny boy last-week was due to assault and not jumping out of a moving vehicle as earlier indicated, his mother said yesterday.

The boy's death sparked violent community protests last week which resulted in the looting of shops.

It had also been reported that the boy was 12 years old but the family has said he was 16.

The boy's father Saki Dingake identified the boy as his son Mathomola Mosweu.

Mosweu was allegedly assaulted by two white farmers who accused him of stealing a sunflower from a farm.

However, the farmers claimed Mosweu jumped out of a moving van as they were taking him to hospital.

The suspects have been remanded in custody.

Their lawyers have approached the

High Court in Mahikeng to try and have the two released on bail sooner.

Meanwhile, Dingake's neighbour Meleko Moremedi said: "We heard

people talking about what happened to the boy and went to church with the

police to look for his father and they took us to the mortuary in Lichtenburg

to identify the boy. Indeed it was him, so we requested space to be given to us

and more information will be revealed after a family meeting."

The incident is likely to heighten racial tensions as residents for the maximum punishment for the perpetrators.

Community safety and transport management MEC Mokgantsang Motlhabane said: "We are still inves-

tigating this matter but postmortem results will be conclusive on what

exactly happened so that we are all sure of the exact cause of death."

With SABC

Parents call for son's 'killers to be dealt with harshly

17-year-old assaulted for alleged theft

By **Boitumelo Tshehle**
North West Correspondent

The parents of a boy whose death sparked a violent protest in Coligny, North West, only found out on Sunday their son was dead.

Matlhomola "Fani" Mosweu's parents became aware of his death when a picture of his corpse was shown to them by a community member who came to their church.

This was after residents had been going around the area with the picture searching for the boy's family.

Matlhomola's father Saki Dingake, 45, said they were in church on Sunday afternoon when they heard that someone outside was looking for them.

He said a primary school principal then showed him a picture of his son.

"I was shocked. I knew that there was a boy who was killed, but never thought it was mine," he said.

Matlhomola had been missing for 11 days on Sunday.

His mother Mmankhibidu Mosweu, 43, said she last saw him on April 19 at home in Scotland informal settlement, Coligny, when his grandmother sent him to buy paraffin.

"I never suspected anything was wrong when he did not come back home because we were used to him being gone



Mmankhibidu Mosweu and Saki Dingake sit in shock in their one-roomed shack after they were informed about the death of their son Matlhomola. /BOITUMELO TSHEHLE

from home for days, but he would eventually come back."

Matlhomola was the third of seven children, and he was 17, not 12 as it was earlier reported.

She said she had heard about the dead boy in the area, but never suspected that it was her son as all the reports said he was 12.

"I cried uncontrollably [when I found out] ... this made me feel like an irresponsible parent," Mosweu said, sobbing as she breastfed her eight-month-old baby on her bed.

She said Matlhomola liked

visiting his friends on one of the farms in Putfontein, about 30km from Coligny, so they thought he was there.

He was apparently severely assaulted, and later died, after he was allegedly caught stealing sunflowers on a farm in Scotland.

Two men made their first court appearance for Matlhomola's murder on Friday.

They were charged with murder and attempted murder and were remanded in custody.

The case was postponed to May 9 for bail application.

Mosweu said she wanted those who killed her son to be killed too.

"I don't want the law to take its course. I want them to die the same way they killed my son."

Matlhomola attended Harkboksplaagte farm school in Putfontein.

Dingake said his boy's killers could have just hit him or punished him, but they had no right to kill him.

The family lives in a one-roomed shack with no electricity or running water.

02/05/17 Pretoria New
Man stabbed in fight
Pg 2 POS NWSAPS

A MAN, 29, was stabbed to death in Ikageng near Potchefstroom in a fight allegedly over a woman, North West police said yesterday.

Sergeant Kelebogile Moleko said the police received information about a murder in Promosa.

"They found the victim next to the road with a stab wound in his chest.

"According to information available at this stage, the victim and the suspect were in a fight over a girlfriend when the victim took out a knife tried to stab the suspect.

"Allegedly, the suspect grabbed the knife and stabbed the victim in the chest." A 32-year-old man is due in court tomorrow. - ANA

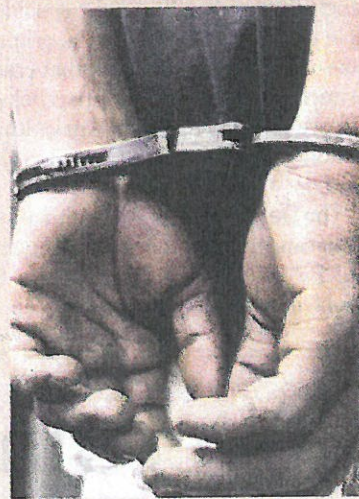
News short

Nabbed for theft of window frames

TWO men arrested for theft of aluminium window frames will have a chance to apply for bail when they appear in the Mmabatho Magistrate's Court again on Thursday. Matlhomola Nobeza, 39, and Moses Mabunda, 29, were remanded in custody when they appeared in the same court on Friday last week. Provincial police spokesperson, Brig Sabata Mokgwabone said the pair were arrested in Magogwe Tar village. - Elfias Torerai

Fight over girlfriend leads to man's death

A POLICE officer acted swiftly to arrest a 32-year-old man who allegedly murdered another man, 29, in Promosa, Potchefstroom, fighting over a girlfriend. The incident happened on Sunday night at about 8pm. Sgt Kelebogile Moleko said: "The suspect's apprehension came after the police received information about a murder that took place in Promosa and went to investigate. They found the victim lying on the ground next to the road with a stab wound in his chest." - Elfias Torerai



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TNA PG 10 POSITIVE NWSAPS 02/05/2017

2 held for cable theft at Eskom substation

INA PG 10 SAPS NW POSITIVE 02/05/2017

ELFASTORERAI

TWO men, one from Lesotho were arrested for allegedly stealing copper cables at an Eskom substation in Stilfontein.

The arrest followed a tip-off from community members.

Divisional executive for security at Eskom, Tebogo Rakau said the theft happened at Kardell substation in Stilfontein, near Klerksdorp.

Rakau said Eskom security officers raided the building and arrested the two men while their accomplices made a hasty escape. Fourteen rolls of underground copper cable, weighing 265kg, were recovered from the scene, along with a hacksaw, knife and rubber gloves, which are thought to have been used by the suspects to obtain the cable.

A case of possession of suspected stolen material was opened at the Stilfontein police station.

"We are grateful for the continued support

we are receiving from the public in the fight against cable theft and other infrastructure-related crimes," Rakau said.

"Damage to an electricity substation poses a serious danger to members of the public, particularly inquisitive children, who might wander into the substation yard and be electrocuted by the exposed power lines that might still be live.

"Such vandalism and theft also disrupts power supply to all the surrounding homes, health facilities, businesses and other services such as traffic lights and streets lights that are supplied by the affected substation.

"This greatly inconveniences households and leads to loss of productivity for businesses and ultimately affects their profitability and ability to retain or hire more staff."

He said members of the public should report suspected cable theft and electricity theft by sending anonymous SMS tip-offs to Crime Line on 32 211.

elfast@thenewage.co.za



NAILED: Two men were caught with 265kg of copper cables stolen from an Eskom power station in Stilfontein. PICTURE: FACEBOOK

2 MAY 2017 SAPS NW (POS) Daily Sun PAGES

Fury and heartache follow Faki's death!

By DULILE SOWAGA

FAKI Mosweu's parents never thought his death would spark violence and racial tension in the tiny North West town of Colligny.

Protests rocking the town last week saw the total destruction of three properties.

Yesterday, *Daily Sun* met with the parents of the grade 6 pupil, Faki (12). Saki Dingake (45) and Agnes Mosweu (43) from Scotland squatter camp said they were informed of his death on Sunday.

"Faki left on Thursday to buy paraffin. He brought it back and left."

They never suspected the dead boy was their son. He will be buried on Saturday.

■ Meanwhile, the men charged with Faki's murder, Pieter Doorewaard and Philip Schutte, appeared in court on Friday.

The case was postponed to 9 May.

A police van carrying the men had to escape through another gate as residents waited at the main gate. People then held a meeting at a local hall.

On their way some helped themselves to booze at a bottle store and blocked the road to the kasi.

Cops first said Faki had fallen from the back of the farmer's bakkie, but a witness came forward to say he was attacked.



Faki when he was a young boy.



Cops with residents who came in their numbers to protest at court as two men appeared in connection with Faki Mosweu's murder.

Photos by Dulile Sowaga

The witness is being kept in a secret place for his safety, said police spokesman Sabata Mokgwabone.

Magistrate Mattheus van Loggerenberg recused himself from the case, saying he was worried for his family's safety.

Van Loggerenberg said the state attorney indicated that the post-mortem would be

available at the next court date.

The suspects did not plead.

■ Residents agreed to stop their service delivery protest to give the task team a chance to resolve their issues.

The team and community leaders addressed people at Blydeville Sports Ground

yesterday.

MEC Wendy Nelson noted their demands and said some will be met soon, while others will take longer.

The team will meet with community leaders and officials daily and could possibly report back to residents by 12 May.



Faki's parents Agnes Mosweu and Saki Dingake.

MOLAOLE MONTSHO

THE TEENAGER killed in Coligny in the North West after allegedly being loaded into a bakkie by two farmers who accused him of stealing a sunflower from their field, died of a broken neck, his father said.

"His neck is broken, the head moves loosely from one side to another. He

had a cut on his throat, on the chin and at the back of his neck. There is also blood in his mouth," said Sakkie Dingake, describing how he found his son, Mathomola Jonas Mosweu, at the government mortuary in nearby Lichtenburg on Sunday.

Mathomola allegedly died when he either jumped out of the bakkie or fell from it. His death had sparked violent

protests that left a trail of destruction in the small maize-producing town.

Three houses and three trucks were torched.

Dingake, 45, of Scotland informal settlement near Tlhabologang, said his son was last seen on April 18 when his grandmother sent him to town to buy paraffin for her. "That was the last time we saw him," he added. - ANA

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MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

Kasi unites against xenophobia

By DULILE SOWAGA

THE community of Lethabong near Rustenburg, North West, has unanswered questions following the murder of a local Ethiopian shop owner . . .

Yaykop Tamirat was shot dead inside his shop in the kasi on Thursday night!

According to his countryman, Ashenafi Gecho, Yaykop had three bullet wounds on his forehead, another on his chest and the other in his mouth.

Foreigners in the township were

left scared and confused as no one knows why Yaykop was killed.

No robbery occurred and his friends and family don't know of any enemy.

"He was a quiet guy who wasn't into women. His shop barely made more than R500 in daily profit, so we don't think he could have been killed by any business rival."

Ashenafi said they were waiting for Home Affairs documents to repatriate his body for burial in Ethiopia.

Lieutenant-Colonel Amanda Fu-

nani said the

23-year-old

man was

found dead in

a pool of

blood inside

his shop.

"At this

stage there is

no arrest. Investigations continue."

Lethabong residents have stood

against xenophobia for many years,

even marching alongside foreigners

in 2015 to call for unity and protection

of foreign shop owners.



Ethiopian shop owner Yaykop was killed on Thursday night.

SAPS NW POSITIVE TNA PG 1 02/05/2017
Men held for 6 years of crime

ELFASTORERAI

NINE men were arrested after a police task team in the province linked them to serious crimes that happened in the Rustenburg area between November 2011 and April 2017.

Provincial police spokesperson Brig Sabata Mokgwabone said it took proper coordination and utilisation of investigative aids in line with a back-to-basics

approach to crack the case leading to the arrest of the nine.

Police spokesperson said patience and perseverance worked for the police in bringing to an end the crime syndicate's reign of terror.

Mokgwabone said the men were linked to various offences including house robbery, rape and illegal possession of firearms.

elfast@thenewage.co.za

Coligny boy died of broken neck, says dad

SHOCK: MOM WAS AT CHURCH WHEN POLICE PHONED HER

» Those who did this to my son must also be killed, says 12-year-old's heartbroken father.

The boy of 12 who died in Coligny in North West after allegedly being loaded into a bakkie by two farmers who accused him of stealing a sunflower from their field, had a broken neck, his father said yesterday.

"His neck was broken, the head moved loosely from one side to the other. He had a cut on his throat, on the chin and at the back of his neck. There was also blood in his mouth," said Sakkie Dingake, describing how he found his son, Matlhomola Jonas Mosweu, at the government mortuary in nearby Lichtenburg on Sunday.

Mosweu allegedly died when he either jumped out of the bakkie or fell from it.

His death had sparked violent protests that left a trail of destruction in the small maize-producing town.

The violence resulted in the torching of

at least three houses and three trucks.

Dingake, 45, of Scotland informal settlement near Tlhabologang, said his son was last seen on April 18 when his grandmother sent him to town to buy paraffin for her.

"He returned and went out. That was the last time we saw him. All the time we thought he had visited friends at a farm in Putfontein. He usually spent time with his friends there during the school holidays. All this time we were fighting, only to find out that we were fighting for our child."

Dingake said the family found out on Sunday that Mosweu was dead.

Mosweu's mother, Agnes Mosweu, 43, said she asked her son's friends whether he was at the Putfontein farm but was told he was not there.

"I get worried. I was at church when I received a telephone call to come to the police station," she said.

Dingake said their suspicions were confirmed when a primary school principal came to him and showed him a photo, inquiring whether it was his son.

He confirmed it was his son and was taken to the government mortuary to

identify him.

"I am heartbroken. Those who did this to my son must suffer the same fate. They killed my son, they must also be killed," he said.

He refuted claims that Mosweu had stolen a sunflower from the fields next to Scotland informal settlement.

"Mosweu did not steal sunflowers, he in fact did not eat sunflower seeds. Why would he steal a sunflower?" he asked.

He said funeral arrangements had been completed and his son would be laid to rest on Saturday in Coligny.

Mosweu was a Grade 6 pupil at a farm school in Coligny and was the third of seven children.

Two farmers, Pieter Doorewaard and Phillip Schutte, were arrested in connection with the death of Mosweu. They appeared in the Coligny Magistrate's Court on Friday and the case was postponed to May 9 for a bail application.

Residents of the informal settlement claim one of the accused was allegedly involved in the deaths of two people, the most recent being last year.

-ANA