

TNA 19/09/14
Three armed suspects arrested on highway

ELIAS TORERAK

COMMUNITY safety MEC Gaoge Molapisi has applauded a team of traffic officers and the police flying squad for arresting three armed robbers along the N12 earlier this week.

The robbers had allegedly carried out raids in Okeoy near Klerksdorp and were driving in a BMW 3 Series. A Toyota Hilux taxi cab, believed to be part of the robbery episode, drove off and police are still looking for its occupants.

Molapisi said the three suspects are believed to be responsible for a number of ATM lootings, cash-in-transit heists and mail robberies in the area.

Though not sure of the number of suspects in the Toyota Hilux, Molapisi said the cooperation between traffic officers and the police was laudable.

"A successful arrest of armed robbers shows your level of commitment to your duty work and you displayed an element of bravery," Molapisi said.

"This arrest should send out a message to criminals that they cannot escape the net that is closing in on them and their operations. As for those who allegedly engaged, my strong message to you is that we are behind your footsteps and very soon you will be behind bars."

The men are expected to appear in court soon.

31 OCTOBER 2014

MAFIKENG MAIL

"Let us promote road safety" - MEC Molapisi

MAHIKENG - Community Safety and Transport Management, MEC Gaoge Molapisi has called upon road users, transport stakeholders and communities in general to join hands with government in making the roads in the province safe.

Molapisi pleaded with taxi commuters and drivers at the Brandfont taxi rank in Mahikeng last week as part of the provincial road safety campaign.

The MEC said there was a need for the government to work with all stakeholders and the public in general to advocate for road safety.

"Government is losing billions of Rands due to accidents and fatalities on the roads as a result of reckless and irresponsible drivers. Therefore, we need to work together and save the lives of the hundreds of our people we are losing in fatalities on our roads.

"Money is not that important but the lives of our

beloved ones are. Let us all take responsibility on road safety and reduce these fatalities," said Molapisi.

He added that the department would do its best to increase visibility on the roads "but we must remember that our officials cannot be on every road at all times.

"We can increase traffic officers as much as we can but if you are not coming on board, we will never win this fight," said the MEC who acknowledged that the SANTACO initiatives of training their members and drivers on road safety issues can change some perceptions about taxi drivers.

Four Chinese tourists die in accident

MAHIKENG - Four Chinese tourists died after their tour bus collided with a lorry along the R56 near Brits last week.

The tourists were on their way to Johannesburg from Sun City at the time of the accident. According to police, the driver of a Toyota Raider van tried to overtake another vehicle, resulting in a head-on collision with the tour bus carrying the Chinese.

More than 10 other tourists were injured and rushed to different hospitals. The Chinese group was on a six-day Africa tour organised by the Walk Through Africa Tours (WATA).

The development has shocked tourists and transport authorities in the province. Tourism MEC, Dube Mkhomo conveyed his condolences to the Chinese for the loss.

"It is with a heavy heart that we convey our deepest and most sincere condolences to the families that lost their loved ones.

"It is truly unfortunate and disturbing to us as a province that such tragedy occurred when these tourists were here to experience our tourism products which we have to offer. We would also like to sympathise with the families of the injured, wish them well and hope their loved ones recover soon," he said. Mkhomo expressed worry that incidents like this were becoming a detriment to the department's endeavours to attract more tourists to the province.

Community Safety and Transport Management MEC Gaoge Molapisi said there was an urgent need to curb fatalities on the roads. "We cannot continue to lose people because of road accidents at the rate which are happening now. This is unacceptable especially happening just a few hours after the Transport Minister launched the annual transport month," he said.

"It is for this reason that our plans are going to focus on road safety education, engaging and encouraging our road users to be more vigilant and patient at all times," Molapisi added.



MEC Molapisi inspecting the truck where the male circumcision services were provided.

North West to act against criminals

MAHIKENG - Police in the North West have vowed to flush out all people who come to the province with criminal intent.

These people, MEC for community safety and transport management told journalists during the launch of the Setsokotsane programme in Mahikeng on Friday included those bogus "doctors" who operate illegal abortion centres and those robbing unsuspecting residents of their hard earned cash by making all sorts of promises to them like "bringing back lost lover", "winning the lotto", bringing you good luck" and many others.

Magome) Masike and his department (Health) to stop these illegal abortions.

Dr Masike recently led a march in Matlosana protesting against illegal abortions in the province where, accompanied by health officials, they removed illegal posters in many parts of the town in which people claim to be having unnatural powers.

"Our people fall for these lies and lose lots of their money. We are working on a programme to try and educate our people to be careful when dealing with these people", he said.

Molapisi said they would embark of a massive programme to address illegal abortions prevalent especially in towns like Rustenburg, Klerksdorp, Potchefstroom and Mahikeng, and Zeerust, Vryburg and Taung.

"We are working hand in hand with Dr

This, he said, was part of the Setsokotsane campaign which was aimed at turning around the situation in region through the tripe R concept.

Stella vehicle registering office opened

MAFIKENG MAIL - Communities of Stella and the neighbouring villages will no longer have to travel long distances to access vehicle licensing services. This follows the official opening of the Stella Registering Authority offices by the North West MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management, Gaeage Molapisi.

Handing over the office to the Naledi Local Municipality Executive Mayor, Langa Modise, MEC Molapisi said the communities of Stella, Madibogo and Setlagole would no longer travel between 40 and 140 kilometres to access the services.

"This office has brought a sigh of relief to our motorists. It will save them petrol and time as they will be accessing services just around the corner.

"The office will ensure the effective and efficient renewal of motor vehicle licenses; registration of new vehicles; de-registration of stolen and recovered vehicles or permanently unfit for use; notifications of changes in respect of vehicle particulars," said Molapisi.

He said the department would continue to ensure

that communities have access to various services where they live.

Motorists and vehicle owners in Stella have been registering and renewing their discs at the Vryburg, Delareyville and Mahikeng registering authorities.

More than 987 transactions were concluded in the office since its operation in a period of three months.

"This clearly shows that the establishment of this licensing centre was in line with the Batho Pele Principles which advocates that services must be made easily accessible to the people," said MEC Molapisi.

The department intends to extend the services and introduce the renewal of driving licenses, booking for learners' license testing and conducting of learners' license classes at the centre in future.



NW Community Safety and Transport Management MEC Gaeage Molapisi cutting the ribbon with the Naledi Local Municipality Executive Mayor, Langa Modise during the official opening of the Stella Vehicle Registering Authority. See page 3.

MEC to launch Operation Duty Calls

BY FAE TSHENGE

COMMUNITY safety and transport management MEC Gaeage Molapisi will launch this year's Arrive Alive and Operation Duty Calls campaign tomorrow.

The launch takes place at the Mallong Mall, starting at 8am.

The campaign is part of preparations to reduce accidents and crime in the forthcoming festive season.

Molapisi said that together with police and other stakeholders, his department plans to contribute towards a safe and accident-free season.

"This is in line with the goal of the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2020 and we want to ensure that the citizens in this province enjoy a crime-free festive season."

"This is part of our mission of making sure that our citizens feel free and safe

during this period," Molapisi said.

The MEC and top police management in North West are expected to outline a programme of action and schedule of activities that will unfold during the festive season.

Provincial police spokesperson Brig Thabisi Nquthu said police were stepping up efforts to prevent criminals from operating.

"While law-abiding citizens are looking forward to enjoying the festive season, criminal elements are also busy with their evil plans and this often leads to a marked increase in certain crimes, which require the police to be steps ahead in terms of coming up with a plan to deal criminals," he said.

Already, police units have identified hot spots where their focus will be directed.

"The crimes identified are common robberies, house robberies, business

robberies, carjacking and cash-in-transit robberies. Efforts to address crimes at shopping malls, garages and attacks on ATMs have been stepped up.

"There are also property-related crimes like burglaries at residential premises and businesses, theft from motor vehicles, stock theft and theft of motor vehicles," Nquthu said.

Key target areas for the police is patrol include Mafikeng, Rustenburg, Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp.

Police will also monitor operations at border points, toll routes and ports of entry, targeting crimes such as theft of motor vehicles, stock theft, counterfeit goods, detection of drugs and goods smuggling.

Special attention will also be given to crimes committed against women and children, such as domestic violence and sexual abuse.



BE SAFE. MEC Gaeage Molapisi, 11/10/2014

'Pray for safer roads'

In launching the annual Arrive Alive campaign, premier calls for prayers for safety this year

BY FAE TSHENGE

PREMIER Supra Mahurepele has called on churches and the public to pray for safer roads and streets during this festive season.

Mahurepele made the remarks when he addressed thousands of people gathered to mark the launch of Arrive Alive and Operation Duty Calls in Mafikeng on Saturday.

The premier decried the high number of accidents that often lead to fatalities and increased incidents of crime during festive seasons.

He said safety was everyone's responsibility and prayers from churches would lead to reduction of fatalities and crime.

"We need our churches, road users and the public in general to partner with us in the fight against crime and road accidents during the festive season. The



REPORT CRIMINALS: MEC Gaeage Molapisi and Premier Supra Mahurepele listen to concerns from Sarah Mandlathu.

government also cannot win this battle.

"Safety begins with an individual and our cooperation on the roads and

streets. We need to be patient on the road and report any criminal activities in our communities."

Community safety and transport management MEC Gaeage Molapisi appealed to motorists to adhere to road rules and ensure that their vehicles were roadworthy.

"Our recent analysis of the past five years shows that most of the contributory factors to the loss of lives on our roads is due to reckless and negligent driving, speeding, drunken driving and unroadworthy vehicles," he said.

Molapisi said that driver fatigue and general bad driving habits have had a negative impact and motorists ought to play a part in behaviour change.

The MEC said drunken driving would be thoroughly monitored.

"We are not going to tolerate any wrongdoing during this festive season and all those in the wrong will face the full might of the law," Molapisi warned.

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Molapisi rides Setsokotsane in Tswaing

MAFIKENG MAIL - Sannieshof- In a move described as **Sebokotsane campaign in motion**, North West MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management **Gaogae Molapisi** reopened the **Sannieshof Driver's License Testing Station (DLTC) which was closed for the past eight months.**

The station was closed due to lack of management and resources after the computers were stolen from the offices.

Introducing the newly appointed management representative of the station, Molapisi said the **Bokone Bophirima** Provincial government was looking forward to bring services closer to the people and the closing of the Sannieshof DLTC was a disadvantage to the communities of Tswaing.

The station provides licensing services with a class that accommodates fifteen students for drivers' learner's licenses.

The newly appointed Ms **Heginah Molwa** said starting from Monday 10th November, the station would conduct three classes a day and serve more than 45 learners.

Immediately after reopening of the station, more than 100 people were already queuing to set appointments for writing and testing

for their learners and drivers licenses.

After the reopening of the station, MEC Molapisi proceeded to Delareyville where he observed the processes on the adjudication of the long outstanding applications for taxi operational licenses.

Conducted by the Provincial Regulatory Entity (PRE), a total of 46 applications were adjudicated. This brought a relief and reduced a backlog of applications in the Tswaing Local Municipality, which has a backlog of 190 applications from 2012.

Molapisi said the remaining 144 applications would be completed before the end of December. The PRE sitting was redirected to Tswaing following the **Sebokotsane** programme led by the **Bokone Bophirima** Premier, **Sopra Mahumapelo**.

MEC Molapisi said the reopening of the Sannieshof DLTC and the adjudication of outstanding applications for taxi operational

licenses was the successes which prove that **Sebokotsane** was the long awaited programme for the people of **Bokone Bophirima**.

"People must get service where they stay, and this is what Premier is driving through the **Sebokotsane** programme. From today the people of Tswaing will no longer travel long distances to access licensing services," said Molapisi.



MEC Gaogae Molapisi addressing more than 100 taxi association members who were part of the adjudication process of the long outstanding applications for taxi operational licenses.



North West Premier, **Supra Mahumapelo** (right) and MEC for Community Safety and Roads Management, **Gaogae Molapisi** (left) launched the annual **Arrive Alive** campaign in **Mafikeng** over the weekend where **Mahumapelo** called on church leaders to pray for safety on the roads during the festive season.

"We need to win fight against", - Molapisi

MAFIKENG MAIL - MAFIKENG - Community Safety and Transport Management MEC, **Gaogae Molapisi** said the **Bokone Bophirima** needed crime prevention activists in every town and village of the province for police to win the battle against crime.

This came after the release of 2013/14 provincial crime statistics in Alabama near **Klerksdorp** on Tuesday. **Molapisi** appealed to the communities to avail themselves to be the first to respond to any criminal activity in their residential areas.

"These crimes take place on our doorsteps and we know people who commit them. So if we all become first responders we will definitely win the fight against crime."

"There are areas that we have managed to record an enormous reduction but that it is not enough. If we managed to record this in the previous financial year, we then need to strengthen the partnership with all organizations such as churches and the community at large to work like a hand and glove," said **Molapisi**.

The MEC thanked the Crime Prevention Forum for the role they played in the fight against crime. "Job

well done, let us keep up the good work and apply all strategies that have worked for us to achieve reduction and change where they don't work for us," he said.

Provincial Police Commissioner **Lieutenant General Zukiswa Mhombu** said the fight against crime was every citizen's responsibility and it has to be made a goal. "We need to be on the lookout, open our eyes and ears, be the first to respond when we hear any screaming voice or any alert."

She said the province had to unite in preventing and eliminating opportunities for crime in every street of the province.

The statistics shows that the province had recorded a reduction in the following crime categories: murder by 6 percent, rape 11 percent, common assault 6 percent, malicious damage to property 7 percent and stock theft 11 percent.

Male police officer dies in road accident

MAFIKENG MAIL - Mafikeng- The annual **Arrive Alive** campaign got off to a bad start when a police officer attending the launch of the 2014 event was killed in a road crash on Friday.

The officer, who was with a colleague at the time of the accident, was to attend the campaign launched in Mafikeng on Saturday. His colleague was critically injured and rushed to hospital by the emergency service.

The middle aged police officer died on the scene of the accident on the R501 road between **Mafikeng** and **Lichtenburg**.

Police reported that the police officers who were driving a **Toyota Hilux** Double Cab lost control while trying to overtake a truck. According to Traffic Authorities at the scene, the driver realized that there was an oncoming

vehicle ahead which allegedly caused him to lose control. North West Community Safety and Transport Management MEC, **Gaogae Molapisi** said the South African Government was losing assets due to road accidents. "We continue to lose our motorists need to be observant, cautious and always adhere to road rules," said **Molapisi**.

The MEC said the official launch of **Arrive Alive** and Operation **When Duty Calls** which he said was "very unfortunate".

Pray for safety on our roads - Premier Mahumapelo

MAFIKENG MAIL – Bokone Bophirima Premier Supra Mahumapelo has called on churches in the province to pray for safety on the roads and streets of the province during the festive season.

Addressing more than 2000 people gathered at the launch of the 2014 festive Arrive Alive and Operation When Duty Calls campaigns in Mafikeng over the weekend, Mahumapelo said the province experienced lot of accidents which led to fatalities and

the high number of crimes during festive seasons.

He said safety was everyone's responsibility and prayers from churches would assist in reduction of crimes and fatalities.

"We need our churches, road users and the public in general to partner with us in the fight against crime and road accidents during the festive season. Government alone cannot win this battle, but safety begins with an individual and our corporation on the roads and the streets of the province. We need to be patient to each other on the road and further report any criminal activity in our communities," said Mahumapelo.

Community Safety and Transport Management MEC Gaoage Molapisi appealed to motorists to ensure that their vehicles were roadworthy while they adhered to the road rules.

"Our recent analysis for the period of five years shows that most of the contributory factors to the loss of lives on our roads was due to reckless and negligent driving, over speeding, drunken driving and unroadworthy vehicles.

"Driver fatigue and bad driver behaviour have taken a lead during festive seasons and

we are here to advocate for your corporation on our road and compliance," pleaded Molapisi.

Provincial Police Commissioner Zukiswa Mbombo said this year's operational plan on Arrive Alive and Operation When Duty Calls was a clarion call on active citizenry in the fight against crime.

Commissioner Mbombo also made an appeal to members of the community to be responsible for their safety.

Premier Mahumapelo and MEC Molapisi accompanied by Commissioner Mbombo engaged with commuters and long distance taxi drivers at the Brandfort Park taxi rank in Mahikeng where they advocated for road safety and good behaviour during the season.

Ms Sarah Mandlathe of Mocoseng village raised a concern on the usage of drugs by young people. She appealed to both Premier and MEC to intervene and to make an intensive investigation on those who supply drugs to young people.

MEC to present crime statistics

COMMUNITY safety and transport management MEC Gaoage Molapisi will present provincial statistics for the 2013-14 financial year today. This follows the release of national crime statistics that were presented by Police Minister Nkosinathi Nhleko on September 19. Molapisi will present the statistics at Alabama Community Hall in Klerksdorp. Departmental spokesperson Daddy Sebolecwe said: "The announcement is made to inform citizens of the province about the status of crime. After the presentation, various stakeholders will be allowed to make comments in order to contribute to crime prevention initiatives in the province and the country at large," he said. Proceedings start at 9.30am. Community members and various stakeholders are invited. – Elfas Torera

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Community Safety and Transport MEC Gaoage Molapisi handing over the 2014

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