

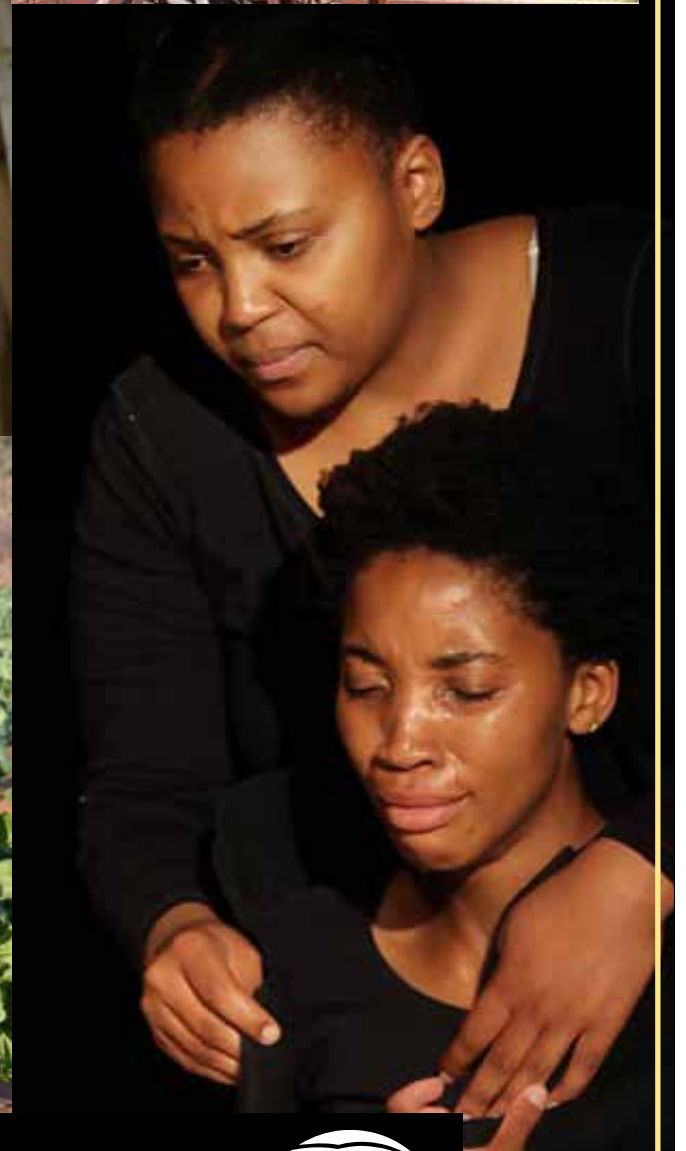
# Vuk'uzenzele

**JOBS  
INSIDE:**

Produced by Government Communications (GCIS)

| August 2018 Edition 1

## IMbokodo



ALSO AVAILABLE ON:



@VukuzenzeleNews

Vuk'uzenzele

Websites: [www.gcis.gov.za](http://www.gcis.gov.za)  
[www.vukuzenzele.gov.za](http://www.vukuzenzele.gov.za)  
E-mail: [vukuzenzele@gcis.gov.za](mailto:vukuzenzele@gcis.gov.za)  
Tel: (+27) 12 473 0353





# No illegal deductions on new SASSA card



The new South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) gold card does not allow for illegal deductions and fraudulent transactions to take place, said the Inter Ministerial

Committee (IMC) on Comprehensive Social Security said recently. "The card is designed to protect social grant beneficiaries from illegal deductions for things such as electricity, air-

time and loans. The only deductions permitted on the new gold SASSA card will be for funeral policies on non-child grants, which should also not be more than ten percent of the total grant," said the IMC in a statement read by Communications Minister Nomvula Mokonyane. With this card beneficiaries can make three free cash withdrawals from any participating merchant such as Shoprite and Boxer one free over the counter cash withdrawal at the Post Office, free swipes purchase payments at all merchants and one free ATM balance enquiry per month to mention a few. "The new SASSA gold card is easily identifiable. It is gold in colour and has the country's coat of arms on the right hand

side as well as the letters 'SASSA' inscribed on the left. The new SASSA gold card offers social grants beneficiaries' real benefits which those who have migrated to it are already enjoying." Government urges all social grants beneficiaries to exercise their choice of a grant payment method carefully and to choose to receive their grants through a method that will not result in their own exploitation. "We wish to reiterate as well that the old white SASSA/CPS card will be completely phased out by the end of September 2018. It will no longer be in use hence we call on people who still have the old card to migrate to the new gold card issued by the Post Office."

## On twitter

### Responses on #67Minutes on Nelson Mandela Day

**Zenobia Nedine QueenSavAge**  
#67MinutesForMandela Went to Princess Alice Adoption Home what a joy are those kids the best ever. I'm Xhosa Just So U know!

**Bongelo Simphiwe @BongeloSimphiwe**  
Happy #MandelaDay use your #67minutes #67MinutesForMandela to put a smile on someone's face.

**Lukholo George @aLoverOfLove**  
Decided to buy food packs (also some lady asked for a pack of sugar) and give them away for my #67MinutesForMandela #givingback

**Riyazi Ismail @mankda\_riyaz**  
It's time @PresidencyZA @GovernmentZA officially declare a public holiday.

**Marvin Craig @missylcraig**  
I try everyday.... On that day we may visit the baby home

**Tshepiso Mobabi @TshepiMobabi**  
Mabopane community on this year's #MandelaDay project painting House number 4838 block B on Friday from 09:00am. Clothing and blankets will be handed handover to the family.

# Trauma eased for Acornhoek abuse victims

**THANKS TO A** partnership with big business and a local businessman, survivors of gender-based violence will find reporting the crimes a little less daunting.

Fighting gender-based violence is everyone's business but a partnership between the Acornhoek SAPS and the private sector has taken the fight one step further. A Wendy house was transformed into a welcoming, safe place for victims of gender-based violence. Coca-Cola Beverages South Africa (CCBSA) employees in Mbombela rolled up their sleeves and built benches, shelves and painted the structure. New floors, ceilings, a geyser and kitchen unit were also installed in the Wendy house. "We had challenges before but now we are sure that our

victims will be well accommodated and their statements will be dealt with confidentially, respectfully and with dignity," said Acornhoek SAPS spokesperson Captain Mpho Nonyane. With many victims of abuse being afraid to submit a statement against their abuser, the CCBSA Mbombela wanted to provide victim-friendly, private facilities to make the process a little bit easier. The project also served to cement a relationship between the SAPS, CCBSA and Richard Malapane, who distributes Coca-Cola products to the community of Acornhoek. As a business owner, Malapane has experienced a few



The bright colours of the structures which will be used to assist victims of abuse.

unfortunate criminal incidents that have affected his business. He hopes that a strong relationship with the police will alleviate challenges faced by the community faces.





# Take a stand against the abuse of women and children

**G**ender based violence is one of the most devastating social challenges facing our young democracy. Every day we hear about abuse against women and children, or read about violence, including murder and rape.

The scourge of violence against women and children resembles an epidemic that is spreading through society, sparing no social group or class. It shows no sign of abating. The data released by StatsSA in June shows that despite our joint initiatives to combat the scourge, it is getting worse. What must be stated here is that gender-based violence is not caused by a virus, it is caused by people.

Unlike a virus that is often transmitted through coughing or physical, this epidemic is spread through attitudes and behaviour.

I don't believe that a man is born with the premise that he has dominion over women.

Instead, this view is handed down from generation to generation and eventually is amplified through social customs, culture and popular media.

It is implied in the social and economic structure of society where men occupy most positions of authority and responsibility and even earn more and receive greater social

recognition than women.

This arrangement, which we know as patriarchy, is not natural. It is made by people and as such it can be taken apart by us all working together as a society.

Ending the scourge of abuse against women and children starts with you and me. Let us take responsibility.

If we are to end violence against women and children, we need to confront patriarchy in all its forms and manifestations and for men to play a key role by, among others, organising themselves in order to turn against gender-based violence.

An example of sustained action by men is the recent #100MenMarch that took place first in Tshwane, and then around the country.

In the true spirit of "Thuma Mina" or Send Me, government organised a demonstration in partnership with various social partners. Thousands of men around the country marched in a joint initiative to stop the violence.

The march drew sectors of society, such as government, business, labour, faith-based organisations, non-profit and media organisations in an effort to stop violence against women and children.

The men who took part in the march decided to become

agents of change. I hope their actions have inspired others, especially perpetrators to end the violence.

Those violently assaulting women and children need to realise that their actions have a lasting effect on their victims, and that their actions will determine the kind of society our children live in tomorrow.



**"I don't believe that a man is born with the premise that he has dominion over women."**



We must help women reclaim agency over their lives and bodies. The time has come for all of us to speak with one voice and take a stand. Just as we did during the apartheid struggle we must mobilise all sectors of society against this scourge.

As men there is nothing that compels us to hurt those who are vulnerable.

Our country will never be truly free until all our women are fully emancipated from the degradation of poverty, the indignity of sexism and patri-

archy, and the endemic violence daily experienced by them and our children.

Violence perpetrated against women is an offence against the founding values of our Constitution. It goes against all that we seek to build as a nation.

I call on every South African to play their part in ending gender-based violence by reporting incidents of abuse in your community to the nearest police station.

By doing this you are sending out a strong message of non-tolerance allowing our criminal justice system to do its job to prosecute perpetrators of domestic violence.

The Department of Social Development also has a Gender-Based Violence Command Centre (GBVCC) – a 24-hour call centre that provides support and counselling to victims of gender based violence. Their number is 0800 428 428 (0800 GBV GBV). Callers can also request a social worker from the Command Centre to contact them by dialling \*120\*7867# (free) from any cell phone.

I encourage survivors of gender-based violence to use the services offered by this centre.

A nation that undermines the aspirations of women and oppresses them can have no peace, no social cohesion, and no development.

The neglect and social exclusion of women in our democratic breakthrough would mean a betrayal of the liberation struggle and of freedom stalwarts like Charlotte Maxeke, Ruth First, Dorothy Nyembe, Amina Cachalia, Winnie Mandela and many more.

Our liberation struggle was not just about ending national oppression.

It was also about ending the triple oppression of women. As mothers, sisters, and daughters, black women were oppressed on the basis of race, class, and gender.

The liberation of women demands that those who are a source of life – women – are also freed from sexist and oppressive language.

This is what the new revolution warrants. This is what radical economic emancipation demands.

Women are the soul and fire of our nation.

We say Malibongwe because our women are the bricks building the dreams of a resilient nation.

Let me remind every South African to always have this slogan in their hearts and in their mind that "Change Begins With Me and I Can Motivate Others to end Violence".

Let us work together to build a safe and better society.





# Helping women farmers prosper

**THE PROJECT** has allowed more women to participate in projects in their communities while building their knowledge and a pathway out of poverty.



■ One of the ways that the Adaptation Fund assists rural female farmers is encouraging them to use climate resilient crops.

**Dale Hes**

**T**he chances of climate change affecting farming methods of rural female farmers in the uMgungundlovu District Municipality in KwaZulu-Natal will be slim thanks to a project implemented by

the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

The uMgeni Resilience Project is a R102 million project which falls under the Adaptation Fund – an initiative which seeks to assist communities to deal with climate change. The

project has changed the way these women go about their activities by encouraging the use of climate resilient crops, organic fertilisers and new ploughing methods.

Matu Gwala received assistance from the uMgeni Resilience Project after struggling to farm her crop due to unpre-

dictable climate events such as heavy rains and drought.

She said that the project allowed her to grow more climate-resilient produce, sell it and make a profit.

"I managed to buy furniture for my house and invested some of the money for my children's school fees," said Gwala.

Another farmer, Winnet Dhladhla, had previously used an incorrect planting method where she planted her crops too close together. With the problem sorted out, she was able to make a profit from her potatoes and from mealies that she grows.

"This has allowed me to feed my family and also make some money on the side," Dhladhla said.

There are currently about 380 women farmers benefiting from this project in the province.

SANBI's strategic grants manager, Michael Jennings, said that the project seeks to address the hurdles faced by women farmers.

"The project recognises

that women usually do not own assets nor have the opportunity to participate meaningfully in projects due to exclusive local institutions and social norms. It seeks to empower women through an approach focused on engagement, capacity development and access to markets," said Jennings.

The project has allowed more women to participate in projects in their communities, while building their knowledge and capacity to make their own decisions and chart their own pathways out of poverty.

"Part of this includes training them on organising, setting up of co-operatives and managing such co-operatives. It also includes learning about climate smart practices that lead to increased production. Through investments in infrastructure such as community gardens, irrigation tunnels, and other equipment, the project has empowered women to own resources and assets," Jennings explained. ■

# New amphibious wheelchairs make beaches accessible to all

**THE INNOVATIVE** wheelchairs are "amphibious" in that they are able to move easily on sand and float on water.



■ Jakkie Pieters from The National Council for Persons with Physical Disabilities in South Africa accepts their amphibious wheelchair on behalf of the Kouga Municipality.

**S**outh Africa is renowned for its spectacular coastlines, with our sunny beaches along the eastern and western shores being hailed as some of the best in the world.

Every year, thousands of tourists and locals flock to the seaside to play and create holiday memories with family, but not much thought is given to the unique challenges faced by the disabled in enjoying time at the beach.

Taking this into account, the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa

(WESSA), together with the Ford Motor Company Fund, has donated "amphibious wheelchairs" to Blue Flag beaches in four coastal municipalities in South Africa. The chairs will make beaches universally accessible to those with disabilities and create awareness around spaces becoming more accessible to all.

The innovative wheelchairs are "amphibious" in that they are able to move easily on sand and enter and float on water, said WESSA National Coastal Coordinator Robert Slater.

WESSA implements the international Blue Flag programme in South Africa which ensures beaches meet global standards of

safety, cleanliness, access to amenities and environmental management, among other criteria.

The City of Cape Town, Overstrand, Bitou and Kouga municipalities were awarded the chairs based on their existing disabled access to beaches and their commitment to making their Blue Flag beaches usable for all people. The chairs will be freely available for disabled beachgoers to use at Blue Flag beaches to be determined by the recipient municipalities.

Director for Education and Global Community Development at the Ford Motor Company Fund Mike Schmidt said, "This is yet another example of how mobility can improve the quality of life for people in many different ways. We're happy to support this unique project that will allow more people to fully experience the joys of the beach - from traveling along the sandy shores to going into the water." ■



# Mokwele raising the bar in chicken farming

## More Matshediso

**L**osing a parent through death is devastating and can be the beginning of difficult times for many young people, but for Thabang Mokwele it meant having to work harder in order to survive.

As a child who grew up in a family farm near Ventersdorp in the North West province, Mokwele had to take over the reins when his father passed on in 2009. He was only 22 years old.

"I had to drop out of an Information Technology course in order to sustain the farm after my father's burial. I could not let the farm die on my watch," he said.

He is passionate about farming because it has been the main source of income for his family all his life.

Five years later when the family farm was stable he went on to start his own farm Thaba-Kwena Projects PTY (LTD)

in Lichtenburg. Recently he was crowned the overall winner for the 2018 Young Farmer of the year award in the North West province.

Mokwele (31) also won the award for Best Youth Commer-

**"I want to thank the department and all the people who supported me to start my business. I am where I am today because of them."**

cial Enterprise.

"I want to thank the department and all the people who supported me to start my business. I am where I am today because of them," said Mokwele.

His farm specialises in broiler production and he started it

with an investment of only about R40 000.

Broiler production is the breeding of chickens for meat production.

Back in 2014, he started with only 45 000 chickens per cycle but to date the farm has ten broiler houses with a capacity of 15 000 chickens each producing at least 150 000 birds per cycle. The cycle runs for about 35 days.

He has been able to create 12 permanent jobs and employs 16 casual workers.

Mokwele supplies Kroon's Gourmet Chickens with stock through a contract with the company.

The farm received financial support of nearly R1 million from the department to help pay for electricity and purchase of feed.

He encourages other young South Africans to look at farming as a business that can yield many financial benefits. **V**



■ Thabang Mokwele in a broiler house at his farm.

## Hard work pays off for young farmer

**NYADZANI RERANI** is an entrepreneur at heart who has proven that farming has a wealth of benefits.



■ Young farmer Nyadzani Rerani produces jam-squash, pepper dew, chillies, tomatoes, green beans and butternuts which are supplied to major retail shops in Vhembe and he also exports tomatoes to Mozambique.

## Odas Ngobeni

**W**hen Nyadzani Rerani completed his degree in nature

conservation six years ago the idea of working for someone else was furthest from his mind.

Instead the 28-year-old wanted to be an entrepre-

neur venturing into the business of farming in the rural village of Maluma outside Thohoyandou in Limpopo.

His dream was further encouraged when he started to

frequently visit a 250 hectare farm which belonged to his friend's father in Nwanedi village which opened his mind to how exciting farming could be.

Rerani said at the time his father had 15 hectares of land that was scheduled to be sold.

"I pleaded with my father not to sell our land situated in Ha-Mphaila because I had plans to farm it."

Rerani's very first stint in farming was planting mustard spinach on a half-hectare patch of land. From this harvest he saved every cent so he could grow the business. He decided to plant butternut on a one hectare piece of land.

"In the following season I decided to plant the butternut in two hectares and was able to hire one person to assist me with harvesting. I was already seeing myself as a commercial farmer and I worked very hard," he says.

Things took a turn for

Rerani when a hailstorm damaged everything on his farm. However this did not discourage him. Instead he registered his company in 2016 with the help of the Small Enterprise Development Agency while the National Youth Development Agency helped him with a business plan.

Rerani now employs 18 permanent workers, 14 of which are young people, but he also employs as many as 90 seasonal workers.

"The government has assisted me with ten workers through the EPWP and I also have an intake of 11 learners from TVET colleges who are doing experiential learning in my farm."

He has leased an additional eight hectares of land where he is planting gem squash, pepper dew, chillies, tomatoes, green beans and butternuts. He supplies major retail shops around the district of Vhembe and also export his tomatoes to Mozambique. **V**



# Cuba-trained medical students ready to serve

**THE STUDENTS** will complete their sixth-year studies and integration into the South African health system.

**Z**azi Zulu is one of the 260 fifth-year medical students who are pleased to be back home after having left South Africa to study medicine in Cuba six years ago.

He left his home in the Umgungundlovu District of KwaZulu-Natal in 2012 as a starry-eyed 17-year-old matriculant to pursue his dream of studying medicine.

Zulu was one of the bursary recipients who was awarded an opportunity to study abroad as part of the Nelson Mandela Fidel Castro (NMFC) medical collaboration programme of the Department of Health.

Through the programme, the department awards qualifying and deserving students an opportunity to study medicine in Cuba free of charge.

The NMFC programme was established by presidents Nelson Mandela and Fidel Castro in 1996 as part of the various bilateral agreements between South Africa and Cuba.

The programme was established to address the over-con-



■ Zazi Zulu using a microscope during his studies in Cuba.

centration of health personnel in urban areas and in the exclusionary private sector; insufficient personnel who were also not in possession of the necessary training and the under-provision of health care in rural and peri-urban areas, as well as informal set-

tlements.

Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi recently welcomed the students back into the country.

Minister Motsoaledi was accompanied by his Deputy Joe Phaahla together with families and loved ones to welcome the fifth-year medical students at

a ceremony held at OR Tambo International Airport.

The students will complete their sixth-year studies and integration into the South African health system. They will spend the next 18 months of study at various South African universities, and will then be

## DID YOU KNOW?

**About 590 doctors have already qualified from the Nelson Mandela Fidel Castro (NMFC) medical collaboration programme since it started in 1996.**

dispatched to their districts of origin to start working as doctors.

Upon arrival, Zulu said he was happy to be reunited with his family of ten members. Each one of them wore a specially-designed black T-shirt with the words 'Dr Zazi Zulu' and carried a big banner with the message: "Welcome Back, Mageba."

"I am very pleased with the warm reception that we have received upon our return. I am looking forward to applying all the knowledge that I have gained in Cuba. I want to use my skills and expertise and work with diligence for the benefit of my fellow compatriots," he said. **V**

## Breastmilk grows healthy babies



**B**reastmilk is one of the best ways that a mother can give her baby all the necessary nutrients in the proper

proportions which keeps the baby healthy and protects against diseases.

Every mother who chooses to exclusively breastfeed her baby in the first six months is doing the best she can to help her baby grow and stay healthy.

Breastfeeding and adding formula, water, teas, cereals and other foods, in the first six months of the baby's life increases the baby's risk of getting diarrhoea, pneumonia, malnutrition and allergies.

With the world celebrating World Breastfeeding Week from 1-7 August the Western Cape Department

of Health gave a few tips from mothers on how best to care for their little one.

### Why must I breastfeed exclusively?

Breastfeeding will assist with your baby's brain, teeth and jaw development. It also helps you to get to know your baby. Breastfeeding is good for the mom because it helps to decrease bleeding after birth, as well as the chances of developing breast and ovarian cancer and helps with weight control after pregnancy.

### Why does my baby need breast milk?

The first milk produced by the breast is sticky, yellow-white early milk called colostrum and should be your baby's first food. It is normal for mothers to produce only a small amount of colostrum. This milk is rich in protective factors and vitamins and acts as your baby's first immunisation.

### When do I start breastfeeding?

The best time to start breastfeeding is in the first hour after birth while your baby is lying skin-to-skin with you. This is the time when your baby's sucking reflex action is at its strongest.

Most new-borns are ready to find the nipple and start breastfeeding within the first hour after birth.

### How do I know that my baby is getting enough breast milk?

- The baby should be gaining weight according to the growth chart in line with the weight and age of the baby.
- The baby has about 6-8 wet nappies in 24 hours.
- The baby is happy and satisfied. **V**

Information supplied by the Western Cape Department of Health



# No child left behind



Two dedicated women are going all out to build up a school that specialises in leadership and technology. It provides specialised private education for children with Autism and ADHD.

Matona Fatman

When Yanela Ntlauzana left the UK earlier this year and headed back home to South Africa, she was determined not to go back. “If I go back, I would’ve failed,” says Ntlauzana. The 37-year-old left a secure paycheck and her two boys, aged nine and 14, to pursue her lifelong dream of opening a school that would ensure that every child gets an equal opportunity in life by getting the very best individualised education. For Ntlauzana an ACAE (advocacy on autism and related conditions) specialist and bespoke trainer -- failure is not an option. She is putting every fibre of her being into making Plumfield Specialist School work. The school is nestled in the tranquil

slopes of Chartwell in Gauteng. The vision for Plumfield, while born of glorious ideals, is by no means an easy feat, even for Ntlauzana and her co-founder, Hlumela Sixishe, who is a Goliath of individual-

“These are the very same children that get rejected and branded as ‘unteachable’, robbing them of their basic right to quality education and an equal opportunity to thrive in life.”

ised education in her own right. The duo are building a bespoke school from the ground up that specialises in leadership and technology. What sets it apart from its well-resourced counterparts that provide specialised private education is its focus on children with Autism and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). These are the very same children that get rejected and branded as ‘unteachable’, robbing them of their basic right to quality education and an equal opportunity to thrive in life.

ty to thrive in life. Both Ntlauzana and Sixishe understand that an Autism or ADHD diagnosis is not the “no return” decree some would have the parents believe. It simply means the teaching and learning environment has to respond differently and to each individual to afford the child at the centre of it all the opportunity to discover how smart, capable and intelligent they are and to be able to contribute to the collective. The school’s core curriculum is liberal arts along with subjects like coding with students learning fundamental programming concepts including a Lego-like visual language, which progresses to Java Script and Python. The potential of a child with autism

No one knows better the potential of a child with autism than Ntlauzana, as both her boys are autistic. This is why she is determined to make Plumfield a success. Its a dream towards which she and Sixishe toil day and night. Ntlauzana is working to get to a point where her two boys can join her and be part of the student body at Plumfield. The care that her boys are getting from the public system in the UK is what drives her to want the same for children with Autism in South Africa. When it comes to providing children with opportunities and resources, Sixishe is just as passionate as Ntlauzana. They

are unrelenting in their view that all children must be given equal opportunities. Ultimately, they want the end goal of education to change. For now, Plumfield doesn’t enjoy any funding and Sixishe and Ntlauzana are not drawing salaries. Their commitment to affordable, quality education is what keeps them going. They one day hope to get the Department of Basic Education to subsidise learners with Autism so they can get tuition at Plumfield. Sixishe and Ntlauzana are not scared to dream big and act even bigger. They plan to grow their school to offer boarding in the future. So far, Ntlauzana and Sixishe have managed to show that with the

right mindset and unbending resolve, anything is possible. Even a specialised school called Plumfield. ■



Yanela Ntlauzana.



Hlumela Sixishe.

## What is autism?

Autism spectrum disorder is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and affects a person’s ability to communicate and interact with others.

## Symptoms of Autism

- Lack of or delayed spoken language.
- Repetitive mannerisms or tics such as flapping of hands.
- Lack of eye contact.
- Lack of interest in family members or friends.
- Lack of make-believe playing.
- Fixation with specific objects, or parts of objects.

**Note to parents:** Always keep track of your child’s developmental milestones so that if there are problems your child can get help early.



# From pregnant teen to nuclear scientist

Hlengiwe Ngobese

**A**t the age of 16, Senamile Masango was a pregnant teenager who had no idea that one day she would be a nuclear scientist.

Fate proved to be on Masango's side and she was able to rise above her circumstances. Last year, she was part of the first group of scientists in Africa who conducted research at the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) laboratory in Switzerland.

CERN is the place where the world's best physicists and engineers go to find out more about the make-up of the universe.

Masango is currently registered for a PhD in nuclear physics with the University of Cape Town. She is based in Canada where she is collecting data for her research at the Triumf, which is Canada's premier physics



■ Senamile Masango collecting data at Triumf Canada for her PhD experiment.

laboratory,

The 32-year-old who hails from KwaZulu-Natal said she struggled to break the cycle of poverty but her hard work paid off.

"I grew up in rural Nongoma as part of a polygamous family. I started university as a naïve teenager at the age

of 16 and hardly a year into my studies, I was pregnant. After giving birth, however, I managed to finish my course," she said.

Masango told *Vuk'uzenzele* that she had always dreamed of becoming a scientist.

After completing matric, she enrolled at the Universi-

ty of Zululand for a BSc in physics and electronics. She proceeded to do her honours in physics and masters in nuclear physics.

Besides being an outstanding achiever in the field of science, she also founded an organisation called South African Women in Science and

Engineering, which provides leadership and role models for young people who enter the field of science and technology.

"I'm passionate about education and contributing to

**"Nothing great comes easy in life. If you want to be a well-respected scientist you have to work hard for it."**

making the South African education system a better one by assisting in improving mathematics and science pass rates. I want to change the lives of youth from disadvantaged backgrounds," she said.

She added that she is a firm believer in hard work. "Nothing great comes easy in life. If you want to be a well-respected scientist you have to work hard for it." ■



## EC woman launches gallery for rural artists

**AN ENTREPRENEUR** aims to put artists in the picture when it comes to earning a living through their work.

Siya Miti

**A**rtist Samkela Stamp-er has devised a business model to develop the rural artists who inspired her to start an art gallery in Dabhani near Peddie in the Eastern Cape.

The 35-year-old Rhodes University Fine Arts student said she observed that rural people were discouraged from using their artistic gifts because they get peanuts while established art galleries pocket the bulk of any sale proceeds.

"This gift is not even celebrated by people because it makes money for the rest of the world and not for us. My focus is mainly women. I love women and I think they should have their own agent," said Stamper.

"There is a lot of talent. Most of the art in big galleries comes from rural artists. Look at Esther Mahlangu, her work goes all over the world. However, we are not concerned with developing them beyond crafters. There should be more art galleries in rural areas. Established galleries take 60 percent or even more from sales and very little goes to the artists themselves. We want to change that... All the trends in the arts come from Africa anyway but rural artists are excluded."

She explained during the decade she lived in Mpumalanga, she met women at arts festivals or on government-funded overseas trips and noted that they had no direct access to art galleries.

It was this observation

that inspired her to start the Thandeka Stamper Art Gallery – named after her grandmother and based in rural Dabhani – to help rural women and young artists.

"Most artists in rural areas have no support and no access to information about funding. Older women who paint have no access to galleries. We are creating an arts residency," she said, explaining that some funding has been secured from the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

"We want all the artists to have a stake so that we are able to create an outlet for them," she said, adding that the venture will see a collaboration between learners, youth and artists. ■



■ Artist Samkela Stamper aims to encourage women to make a living out of art.



# Cheers to winemaker Ntsiki

Hlengiwe Ngobese



**N**tsiki Biyela made headlines in 2004 as the first black winemaker challenging stereotypes about this industry and proving that it is a woman's world too.

This rural girl from Mahlabathini in KwaZulu-Natal is the owner of Aslina Winery a company based in Cape Town that produces Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Bordeaux blend.

She exports about 23

000 bottles of wine on an annual basis to the United States of America, Germany, Taiwan, Denmark and Ghana.

Aslina wines named after her grandmother is available in four wine boutiques in Cape Town and in two boutiques in Johannesburg.

Biyela says when she started the company it was not easy to crack it into the market. "I had to prove myself that as a woman I am capable."

Biyela told *Vuk'uzenzele* that as a young girl a career in winery was not in her plans.

"I always dreamed of becoming a chemical engineer but due to a lack of finances at home after matric, I ended

up taking employment as a domestic worker to make ends meet."

In 1999, her big break came when she received a scholarship from South African Airways to study oenology and viticulture at the University of Stellenbosch.

Oenology is the science and study of wine and winemaking and viticulture is the science, production, and study of grapes.

After completing her degree she joined the wine producer Stellekaya in the Stellenbosch district as a wine maker.

"When I tasted wine for the first time at university I didn't like it. The love for wine grew when I began learning more about it. Winemaking demands a lot of passion and chemistry," says Biyela.

She says when she worked at Stellekaya she was an all-rounder, which helped her to gain experience in everything related to wine producing. This led to her starting her own wine-making company in 2012.

Biyela encourages women to start their own businesses just like she did.

"As women let's show the world that we are capable of doing great things. We need to see more women in wine industry or in any other careers that are known to be male careers," she said. **V**



■ Ntsiki Biyela is the first black female winemaker making waves in her sector.

## Alien plant 'auntie' to the rescue

**A LOCAL WOMAN** is protecting the Cape Winelands ecosystem one alien plant at a time.

Jauhara Khan

**L**inda Jansen is leading efforts to rid the scenic Cape Winelands of invasive alien plants.

Jansen, 50, is an alien plant clearing contractor from Tulbagh in the Western Cape, who is changing her community through her commitment to the environment.

Jansen joined Cape Nature, a public institution responsible for biodiversity conservation in the Western Cape, as a general worker in 2002.

She was soon asked to join the Cape Nature office as a wage clerk.

But the banks of the Breede River had seen a widespread infestation of invasive plant species over the years. If left to flourish, invasive alien plants pose a threat to plant and animal biodiversity, using

up vast amounts of water and compromising soil quality.

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture's LandCare division turned to the community in search of solutions, and out of that search emerged Jansen, who was approached to register as an alien clearing contractor.

Jansen started her contracting business, Lyn's Valley, which now oversees three alien plant clearing teams and employs 39 people. Her teams are currently deployed in projects in Wellington and Worcester.

"When I started out I employed 12 people, and I hired a bakkie and three chainsaws. I employed people who had previously been in jail, housewives, youth... people who needed a job," she said.

Jansen has an acute understanding of the ecology of

the area, and explained the impact invasive plants had on resources needed by local vegetation.

"There are many kinds of alien plants growing here. Eucalyptus, pine, and poplar trees are all alien plants. The blue gum tree is one of the bigger trees that grows next to water. On a hot day, it can drink as much as 200 litres of water. The river turns into a stream; there is so little water left that you can't even fill a bottle. When you cut the tree down, you can actually see water bubbling out of it," she said.

Jansen, who is fondly referred to as "Aunty" and "Mother" by her employees and locals, said that her teams worked closely with farmers in the area who understand the benefit of their programme. **V**



■ Linda Jansen is fondly referred to as "Aunty" and "Mother" by her employees and locals works closely with farmers in the area who understand the benefit of her programme



# Amangcolosi building the community through land

**A KWAZULU-NATAL** land restitution project shows what can be achieved through hard work and commitment.

Hlengiwe Ngobese

**T**he success of the Amangcolosi Community Trust land claim is an example of how land brings dignity and unity to a community.

In 2004, about 401 families successfully claimed their land back through the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights.

Over the years this community has been able to build a fully-fledged business called Ithuba Agriculture which employs about 500 people in Kranskop in KwaZulu-Natal.

Ithuba has 8 000 hectares of land and farms sugar cane, timber, white maize, kiwi fruit and chillies.

With the business being so successful, a decision was made to plough some of the bounty back into the community and four homes were built for poverty-stricken families.



■ Ithuba Agriculture employs about 500 people in Kranskop.

Beneficiary Nomthandazo Dlamini said she could not believe it when she was told that Amangcolosi wanted to build her a house.

"I am a widow and with four unemployed children, I am struggling to make ends meet. I never thought in my wildest dreams that I would one day own a big house.

When I received the keys I felt like crying," she said.

Dlamini's home has three bedrooms, a kitchen, dining room and bathroom.

The CEO of Ithuba Agri-

culture Sibusiso Dlamini said his company is always seeking ways to uplift the community.

"Prior to handing over these new homes, we had built five classrooms at a school that had only four classrooms and donated a computer lab with 30 laptops to another school. We will continue doing good things for the community because it is important to have humility and build our society," he said.

Ithuba has supply agreements with a number of companies, including Gledhow Sugar Mill and NCT Forestry Co-operative. Over and above the employment opportunities created by Ithuba on behalf of the Amangcolosi Community Trust, the company has been paying yearly dividends of R6 000 to the 401 families who are part of the trust. ■



## NW training creates a gateway for tour guides

**YOUTH ARE GIVEN** an opportunity to learn more about the tourism sector and share this knowledge with visitors.



■ Bofelo Ngwenya of Mahikeng is one of the young people who benefitted from the programme which helped her to improve her business Bofelo Travel and Tours.

More Matshediso

**T**he North West Department of Tourism is providing young people with tour guide training

allowing them to participate in the travel sector.

Bofelo Ngwenya of Mahikeng is one of the 100 young people who benefitted from the tour guide training pro-

gramme.

The 29-year-old started her own travel and tourism business after struggling to find a job. She said the tour guide training has assisted

her to improve her business expertise.

"I mostly benefitted in acquiring courage to interact with my customers who are tourists in our province. I am now able to teach them a little bit about the history of our province and recommend places they can visit throughout their stay," said Ngwenya.

She added that the programme also helped her improve her marketing skills which has helped her business to grow because she can now take her clients to different places without getting lost.

The provincial Registrar from the department Gabriel Dichabe said this year the programme aims to improve the training by increasing the number of recruits as well as enhancing the scale of modules.

"Our target is to train 200 youth in culture guiding and 40 more in adventure guiding

across all districts," he said.

The programme offers skills to new entrants ranging from cultural communication and presentation, first aid, entrepreneurship and marketing as well as knowledge on heritage and the history of different tourist attractions in the province. ■

**Those who are interested in pursuing a career in Tour Guiding are encouraged to submit an updated CV, one page motivational letter and certified copies of their identity documents and Grade 12 certificates to Gabriel Dichabe**  
**gdichabe@nwpg.gov.za or Molebogeng Morubane**  
**mmorubane@nwpg.gov.za. Alternatively they can drop them off at the nearest Tourism Offices, Municipality and Cultural Authority.**  
**For more information contact 018 387 7801.**



# TVET colleges are central to addressing skills gaps

**STRONGER TVET COLLEGES** will improve the provision of technical qualifications.

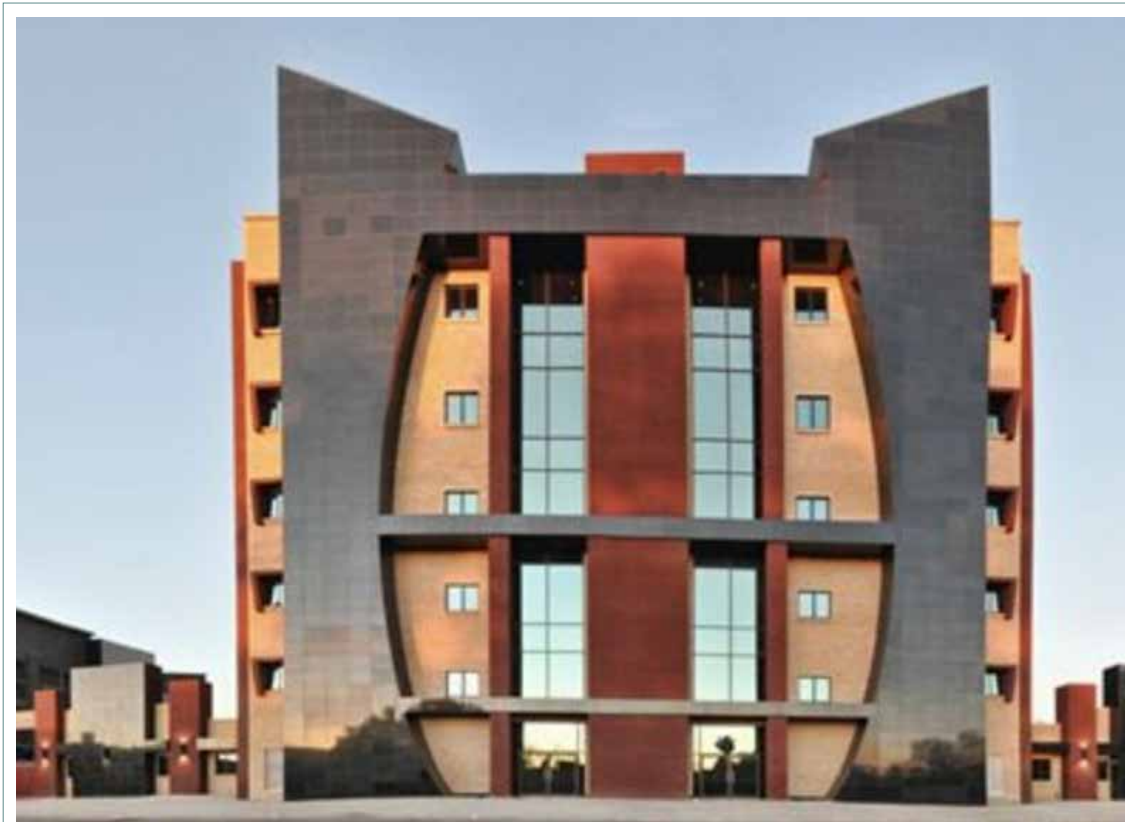
More Matshediso

**T**echnical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges are a high priority for government because they play a critical role in addressing the current skills gaps in South Africa.

That is according to Higher Education and Training Minister Naledi Pandor who was speaking at the official opening of Capricorn College for TVET's Central Office in Polokwane in Limpopo.

The college opened its Central Office in the city to ensure the smooth running of its four campuses based in Polokwane, Seshego, Senwabarwana and Ramokgopa. These institutions provide tertiary education to about 18 000 students.

Minister Pandor said stronger colleges will expand the provision of mid-level technical and occupational qualifications that will lead directly into paid work for the



■ Minister of Higher Education and Training Naledi Pandor officially opened the Capricorn College for TVET's Central Office.

growing numbers of young people leaving the schooling system.

"Government wants more young people to attain skills

and competencies that will help them find jobs or create their own enterprises," she said.

She said colleges are able to

establish links with industry so they can increase employment prospects of students.

The Acting Principal of the college Amos Thema told

*Vuk'uzenzele* that it was necessary for the college to have a central office so that it can continue to provide education to students without unnecessary hindrances.

"When the college opened its doors in 2003 we only had about 7000 students but now we have grown in leaps and bounds and it had become difficult to run the college without having a central office," he said.

Although each campus had its own administrative block, Thema said core administration work is done at the central office, and that the office was needed to accommodate about 100 staff members who could no longer be accommodated on campuses due to limited space.

The newly revamped state-of-the-art six-story building consists of about 64 offices, parking, three boardrooms, two staffrooms, two chambers, three store-rooms and a wellness room. ■

...

## Food safety training feeds youngster's dream

**A GOVERNMENT-RUN** skills development programme is giving the youth a chance to grow their future in the hospitality industry.

Albert Pule

**A** few months after burying his mother, Smangaliso Radebe was shot, spent time in hospital and was almost abandoned by family and close friends.

The 27-year-old from Zola in Soweto was living on borrowed time, hanging out with the wrong crowd and losing touch with loved ones.

Getting shot was his wake-up call and he decided to mend his ways

and focus on his education.

He registered for a hospitality management course at the South West Gauteng College in 2013 and graduated in 2016.

He then did an internship at the college before joining the national Department of Tourism's National Food Safety Assurers Youth Training Programme.

Radebe and over 20 of his counterparts from the North West and about 140 from Gauteng recently graduated from the youth training programme.

"When we started, things were simple but as time went by, it started getting tougher. But with determi-

nation and the will to learn, we made it and it feels good to be recognised by your own government."

The graduation ceremony was officiated by Deputy Minister of Tourism Elizabeth Thabethe and MEC for Tourism in the North West Desbo Mohono.

Endorsed by Food and Beverage Seta, learners received accredited NQF level 2, 3 and 5 qualifications in practices related to the manufacturing, storage and processing of food in the hospitality industry.

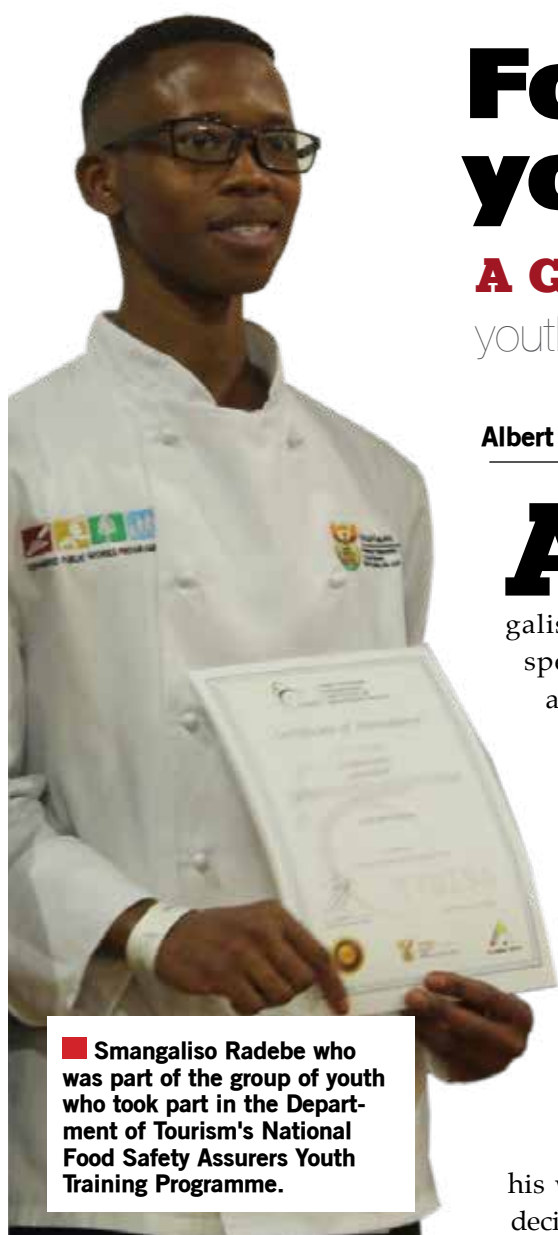
In the 2017/2018 financial year, the Department of Tourism approved the training of 500 learners

as Food Safety Assurers nationwide. The training programme consists of 30 percent theory and 70 percent practical training. Learners are placed at various hospitality establishments for experiential learning.

Radebe says he is thankful to the department for the opportunity to further his studies.

"Before my mother died she told me that she saw me as a graduate and I'm glad that I could amount to something in my life."

Radebe is currently doing a six-month internship at Glenburn Lodge in Muldersdrift. ■



■ Smangaliso Radebe who was part of the group of youth who took part in the Department of Tourism's National Food Safety Assurers Youth Training Programme.



# Carnarvon youth dreams about stars

**THE ASTRONOMY** hub that is taking place in the Karoo is not only transforming science but also dramatically changing lives.



■ Janethon de Klerk has her mind set on becoming an astronomer from the Karoo.

**Amu Chauke**

**O**n course to becoming an astronomer from the Karoo, 21-year-old Janethon de Klerk's journey has not been smooth sailing.

After growing up with her

grandparents in the small Northern Cape town of Van Wyksvlei, she moved to Carnarvon and enrolled in Grade 10 at Carnarvon High School. At the time, she moved in with her single mother, who is a domestic worker.

Things started to look up

when she got a bursary from the Square Kilometre Array South Africa (SKA SA) in 2014 before starting Grade 11. The bursary also includes hostel accommodation and scholar support.

She continued to do well in her studies and received a ter-

tiary education bursary from SKA SA.

Janethon is studying towards a BSc degree in physics and mathematics at the University of the Free State. In her first year of study she achieved three distinctions for computer literacy, mathematics and

chemistry. In an interview with *Vuk'uzenzele*, De Klerk said her first semester was her toughest challenge – but thanks to the support she received from her family and the SKA SA school programme co-ordinator, Chantel Mathison, she not only pulled through but excelled.

De Klerk is one of the many Northern Cape students to receive bursaries from the SKA project office.

During the recent launch of the 64-dish MeerKAT radio telescope in Carnarvon, Deputy President David Mabuza said 961 bursaries in science and engineering have been awarded so far. This includes 133 bursaries for recipients from other African countries.

"Next year is my third year, then I will have my undergrad computer science degree. I also want to include astronomy modules in my Honours year," said De Klerk, explaining how her studies and her exposure to the SKA SA have sparked her determination to aim for the stars and become an astronomer. ■



## Saving creates a buffer for a rainy day

**Jauhara Khan**

**A**s South Africans struggle under increasing financial pressure, a savings buffer becomes even more important, yet there is less focus on saving and people are increasingly using credit to fund their basic needs.

That is according to South African Savings Association CEO Gerald Mwandambira.

He added that debt creates a vicious spiral of debt especially for young people.

"It is important for those who are able to save to use all the instruments available to improve their long-term financial sustainability."



Mwandambira shared a few tips to help you save:

■ **Set a Target:** It is important to set and write down important savings targets

such as an Emergency Fund, Holiday Fund and other targeted savings.

■ **Automated Savings:** Debit orders to Savings Accounts

allow automated saving.

■ **Group Savings:** Start or join a Stokvel or Investment Club with family and friends.

■ **Savings Buddy:** Allow your partner or friend to be a savings buddy whom you meet with regularly to discuss your savings journey.

■ **Baby Gifts:** You can seed a child's future savings by requesting baby gifts of cash to deposit into a Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA) or even taking out a Retirement Annuity (RA) for a baby.

■ **Children:** Open TFSA accounts for all your children to maximise the benefit they receive from these accounts. Set up debit orders to contribute to these accounts as

they grow up together with cash gifts they receive on birthdays. You can encourage grandparents and other family to also contribute regularly.

■ **13th Cheque:** Ask your employer payroll to save for a 13th cheque paid to you in December by lowering your salary. This extra pay cheque will allow you to ride out the festive period and New Year expenses without major impact on your finances.

■ **Domestic Help:** Set up a Savings account or Retirement Annuity for your domestic helper. These important members of our families are often forgotten in future planning. ■



Deputy Director: Risk Management

Directorate: Risk Management, Head Office

Reference No: HR 4/18/08/17HO

Salary: All inclusive: R 697 011 per annum

Enquiries: Mr. F Chabalala, Tel: (012) 309 4876

HEAD OFFICE


Chief Director: Human Resources Management:  
Private Bag X 117, Pretoria, 0001

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 17 August 2018

For full details of the advertised posts visit our  
website: [www.labour.gov.za](http://www.labour.gov.za)





Applications must be submitted on form Z83, obtainable from any Public Service Department or on the internet at [www.gov.za/documents](http://www.gov.za/documents). The fully completed and signed form Z83 should be accompanied by a recently updated, comprehensive CV as well as recently certified copies of all qualification(s) including a Senior Certificate and ID-document [Driver's license where applicable]. Non-RSA Citizens/Permanent Resident Permit Holders must attach a copy of their Permanent Residence Permits to their applications. Should you be in possession of a foreign qualification, it must be accompanied by an evaluation certificate from the South African Qualification Authority (SAQA). Applicants who do not comply with the above-mentioned requirements, as well as applications received late, will not be considered. The Department does not accept applications via fax or email. Failure to submit all the requested documents will result in the application not being considered. Correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates only. If you have not been contacted within eight (8) weeks after the closing date of this advertisement, please accept that your application was unsuccessful. Suitable candidates will be subjected to a personnel suitability check (criminal record, citizenship, credit record checks, qualification verification and employment verification). Where applicable, candidates will be subjected to a skills/knowledge test. All shortlisted candidates for SMS posts will be subjected to a technical competency exercise that intends to test relevant technical elements of the job, the logistics of which be communicated by the Department. Following the interview and technical exercise, the selection panel will recommend candidates to attend generic managerial competencies using the mandated DPSA SMS competency assessment tools. Successful candidates will be appointed on a probation period of 12 months. The Department reserves the right not to make any appointment(s) to the above post. The successful candidate will be expected to sign a performance agreement. The Department of Labour is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer. The employment decision shall be informed by the Employment Equity Plan of the Department. It is the Department's intention to promote equity (race, gender and disability) through the filling of this post(s) with a candidate whose transfer / promotion / appointment will promote representativity in line with the numerical targets as contained in our Employment Equity Plan.


Stay in touch with the department, visit: [www.labour.gov.za](http://www.labour.gov.za)  
Facebook: Department of Labour | twitter: @deptoflabour



labour


Department:  
Labour  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





government  
communications

Department:  
Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



GCIS Vacancy

POST: DIRECTOR: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Chief Directorate: Information Management and Technology

SALARY: All-inclusive remuneration package of R948 174 per annum

CENTRE: Pretoria

REFERENCE NUMBER: 3/1/5/1-18/22

ENQUIRIES: Mr T Vandayar  
Tel No: 012 473 0304


CLOSING DATE: 10 August 2018

APPLICATIONS: The DG, Government Communication and Information System, Private Bag X 745, Pretoria 0001, or hand deliver to Tshedimotsetso House, 1035 Cnr Francis Baard & Festival streets, Hatfield, Pretoria

FOR ATTENTION: Mr S Matshageng


For more information on the requirements of the position, kindly visit [www.gcis.gov.za](http://www.gcis.gov.za). Correspondence will be limited to successful candidates only. If you have not been contacted within a month after the closing date of this advertisement, please accept that your application was unsuccessful.

This is a re-advertisement and candidates who applied previously do not need to re-apply.



government  
communications

Department:  
Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

STATE LAW ADVISER LP7 (02 POSTS) (12 MONTHS CONTRACT APPOINTMENT)  
REFERENCE:18/59/LD




PACKAGE: R725 487 – R781 551 per annum (All inclusive Remuneration Package). (Salary will be in accordance with OSD determination). The successful candidate will be required to sign a performance agreement

REQUIREMENTS: LLB or 4 year recognized legal qualification; At least 5 years' appropriate post qualification litigation/advisory experience; Admission as an Advocate or Attorney; Knowledge of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) and Legal Practice Act; Experience in Procedural Law and Taxation of Bills of Costs will be an added advantage; A valid driver's licence;

ENQUIRIES: Ms P Leshilo ☎ (012) 357 8240


CLOSING DATE: 03 AUGUST 2018

NOTE: Interested applicants may visit the following website: [www.justice.gov.za](http://www.justice.gov.za) or [www.dpsa.gov.za](http://www.dpsa.gov.za) to view the full job specification of the above positions. Applications must be submitted on Form Z83, obtainable from any Public Service Department or on the internet at [www.gov.za](http://www.gov.za). A Z83 form & CV must be accompanied by




original certified copies of qualifications, identity document and a driver's licence where necessary. A SAQA evaluation report must accompany foreign qualifications. Applications that do not comply with the above mentioned requirements will not be considered. All shortlisted candidates for SMS posts will be subjected to a technical and competency assessment. Candidate will complete a financial disclosure form and also be required to undergo a security clearance. The foreigners or dual citizenship holder must provide the Police Clearance certificate from country of origin.


The DOJ&CD is an equal opportunity employer. In the filling of vacant posts the objectives of section 195 (1)(i) of the Constitution of South Africa, 1996 (Act No: 108 of 1996), the Employment Equity imperatives as defined by the Employment Equity Act, 1998 (Act No: 55 of 1998) and relevant Human Resources policies of the Department will be taken into consideration. Reasonable accommodation shall be applied for People with Disabilities including where drivers licence is a requirement. Correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates only. If you do not hear from us within 3 months of this advertisement, please accept that your application has been unsuccessful. The department reserves the right not to fill these positions. Women and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply and preference will be given to the EE Target.



the doj & cd

Department:  
Justice and Constitutional Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





Vuk'uzenzele

1 700 000  
COPIES PER MONTH

Government Job  
Advertisements

JOB  
INSIDE:

uk'uzenzele  
How affordable  
V treatment


HIV


Vuk'uzen  
EC youth sail  
their dreams

GET A  
FREE  
COPY!!


Available  
on online platforms

Download  
Gov App:

 vukuzenzeleNews


 vuk'uzenzele

Websites: [www.gcis.gov.za](http://www.gcis.gov.za)  
[www.vukuzenzele.gov.za](http://www.vukuzenzele.gov.za)  
E-mail: [vukuzenzele@gcis.gov.za](mailto:vukuzenzele@gcis.gov.za)  
Tel: (+27) 12 473 0405



government  
communications

Department:  
Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





# WHAT WILL PEOPLE SAY?



There is no excuse for abuse.  
People can only help if they know.  
**TELL SOMEONE.**

Police: 10111  
Stop Gender Violence: 0800 150 150  
Childline: 0800 055 555

**Violence and abuse are poison to society. Let's make it stop.**



government  
communications

Department:  
Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





# Saudi Arabia and SA \$10bn energy boost

**THE COMMITMENT** from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia demonstrates confidence in the South African economy and gives further motivation to the country's drive to raise \$100 billion in new investment over the next five years to create jobs.

A \$10 billion investment pledge into the South African energy sector by Saudi Arabia is set to enhance energy security, create capacity and reduce the cost of energy in South Africa.

The pledge was made during President Cyril Ramaphosa's recent State visit to Saudi Arabia.

"This commitment from the Kingdom is a demonstration of confidence in our economy and gives further motivation to South Africa's drive to raise \$100 billion in new investment over the next five years to create jobs and for development," said President Ramaphosa.

The President characterised his State visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a remarkable success. He engaged in of-

ficial talks with King Salman bin Abdulaziz al Saud, the Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman and the government of Saudi Arabia during his one-day State visit.

The President was accompanied by the Ministers of International Relations and Cooperation; Defence and Military Veterans; Energy and Police as well as the Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry.

During the visit, Saudi Arabia pledged support for South Africa to be accorded observer status in the Organization for Islamic Co-operation (OIC).

The OIC is the second largest inter-governmental organisation after the United Nations with a membership of 57 states spread over four continents.



President Ramaphosa meeting with the Crown Prince Mohamed bin Salman at the Al Hamra Main Guest Palace in Jeddah, during his State Visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

It aims to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony among

various people of the world.

Observer status will give South Africa a number of privileges in terms of accessing developmental

co-operation support, especially its financial institutions that support infrastructure development as well.

[www.SAnews.gov.za](http://www.SAnews.gov.za)

## Media to tell the story of emerging countries

**THE MEMORY** of Madiba continues to inspire hope on the African continent.

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) has called on the media in BRICS countries to explore media partnerships in order to better tell the stories of developing economies to their citizens.

Speaking at a panel discussion at the 3rd BRICS Media in Cape Town, GCIS Chief Director for Communication Service Agency Donald Liphoko said independent media in the five countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa should be part of the conversation and tell the stories of the progress in emerging economies.

"What we really need is to broaden this and have more voices and more active par-

ticipation from [mainstream media] so they can tell BRICS stories and engage with the vision," he said.

Liphoko added that this would contribute to the conversation as well as people to people communication to unite citizens in all BRICS countries.

The 3rd BRICS Media Forum saw 120 media delegates from the five countries – as well as guests from Namibia, Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, Liberia and Ghana – converge in Cape Town for the event that was hosted by the Executive Chairperson and Co-Chair of the BRICS Media Forum Cai Mngzhao and Dr Iqbal Surve.

As the country commemorated Nelson Mandela's 100th

birthday, Liphoko likened the BRICS partnership to those forged by the world icon after his release from prison to usher in a period of peace and post-apartheid prosperity.

"More importantly, the South African government believes it has got a greater role to play in creating an enabling environment for the media to be a positive agent for social transformation," said Liphoko.

He said the country was built from a difficult apartheid history where the media was

an instrument to keep people apart.

"We have moved in the last 24 years to an era where the media has partnered with government and society at large to explore and bring to life our vision of a better life for all.

"I am challenging the media to consider BRICS as such an improbable partnership – an opportunity for us to think creatively and come up with improbable solutions to the world's ills," he said.

[www.SAnews.gov.za](http://www.SAnews.gov.za)



### This month in history

**9 August 1995  
The Women's  
march of 1956**

In one of the largest demonstrations staged in this country's history, 20 000 women of all races marched to Pretoria's Union Buildings on 9 August 1956, to present a petition against the carrying of passes by women to the prime minister Johannes Gerhardus Strijdom.

The march against the pass laws was organised by the Federation of South African Women. The Federation famously challenged the idea that 'a woman's place is in the kitchen', declaring it instead to be 'everywhere'. Although Prime Minister Strijdom was not at the Union Buildings to accept the petition, the women of South Africa sent a public message that they would not be intimidated and silenced by unjust laws.

After the petition was handed over to the secretary of the prime minister, the women sang a freedom song: 'Wathint' abafazi, Strijdom! Since then, the phrase 'wathint' abafazi, wathint' imbokodo' (You Strike a Woman, You Strike a Rock) has come to represent the courage and strength of South African women.

The first National Women's Day was celebrated in 1995 and the day was declared a national holiday. ([Sahistory.org](http://Sahistory.org))



# South Africans fly the flag at Wimbledon

**TWO OUTSTANDING** young people put the country on the map in the tennis sporting code.

## More Matshediso

**S**outh African tennis players have made their country proud when they made history at this year's Wimbledon tournament in London.

Kgothatso Montjane was the first black South African woman to play at Wimbledon and she reached the semi-finals.

The 32-year-old Montjane who hails from Limpopo is a wheelchair tennis player who won the hearts of many South Africans through her performance.

She took to Twitter to express her appreciation at the end of her journey in the competition.

"It's been an incredible journey reaching my first ever Grand Slam semi-final at Wimbledon. Thank you so much, your love and support has been amazing," said Montjane.

Another South African who kept the South African flag flying high was Kevin Anderson who became the first South African since 1921 to reach the Wimbledon men's final this year.

The world did not see him com-

ing until he beat the tournament's defending champion Roger Federer in the quarter finals..

Anderson kept on until he reached the finals where he played against the 12-time Grand Slam champion Novak Djokovic of Serbia.

The Serbian player beat Anderson at the Wimbledon 2018 men's final for his 13th Grand Slam title.

The 23-year-old Anderson said: "It means so much for me to have played in the Wimbledon final. There are so many positives and great memories I will be taking with me. Thanks to everyone from South Africa and around the world for your support and messages. It has been an incredibly special fortnight."

He also did not forget to congratulate his rival, with whom he took a picture at the end of the tournament.

"Congratulations Novak Djokovic. You are a true champion of our sport and it was an honour to share Centre Court with you.

Kevin has engraved himself in the history books of our country. He will go down as one of the best. **V**



**Kgothatso Montjane and Kevin Anderson played their hearts out at this year's Wimbledon 2018.**

## Healing the scars of abuse through drama

**OPENING THE** curtain on pain has helped not only a young playwright but her audience too.

## Galoome Shopane

**J**ane Mpholo is a survivor of gender-based violence who has taken her pain and put it on the centre stage, allowing others to heal through her play called *Psalm 69*.

The 29-year-old who hails from Botshabelo in the Free State was raped at the age of 13. She decided to document her journey of healing through a play that is being showcased at the Performing Arts Centre of the Free State, an agency of the provincial Department of Sport, Arts and Culture.

Mpholo said she was surprised at how well received her play has been by audience members.

The play tells the story of a young girl who endured tough incidents

on her journey to becoming a woman. Having lived not only through sexual assault but also the death of both of her parents to HIV/Aids just weeks apart in her matric year, Mpholo has certainly had her share of tragedy.

However, she said writing and performing the play has been very therapeutic for both her and those who have watched it.

"I'm happy the play has been able to give people hope. Seeing someone's life change because of my work gives me strength and overwhelms me with joy," said Mpholo.

For Mpholo, *Psalm 69* is more than a Bible scripture that lifted her up when she was going through trying times. It is a way that she can help other people, especially women who have been silenced to have their say.

"Now that I have found healing I am continuing with the show to provoke discussion and bring about social justice through theatre."

*Psalm 69* has also been part of the Global Leadership Summit under the Institute of Reconciliation and Social Justice which was held at the South African State Theatre, the Olive Tree Theatre and showcased at the Free State Arts Festival.

*Psalm 69* will be shown at the University of Free State's theatre from the 17 -31 August. **V**

