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'SHOTGUN'

SHOOTS DOWN CRIMINAL PAST

"CRIME does not pay and it certainly didn't for me," says Bongani 'Shotgun' Maseko about his time behind bars.

SEE PAGE 5

Metro police respond to couple's 'horrendous ordeal'

SEE PAGE 2

Bigger and better Map games to mesmerise fans

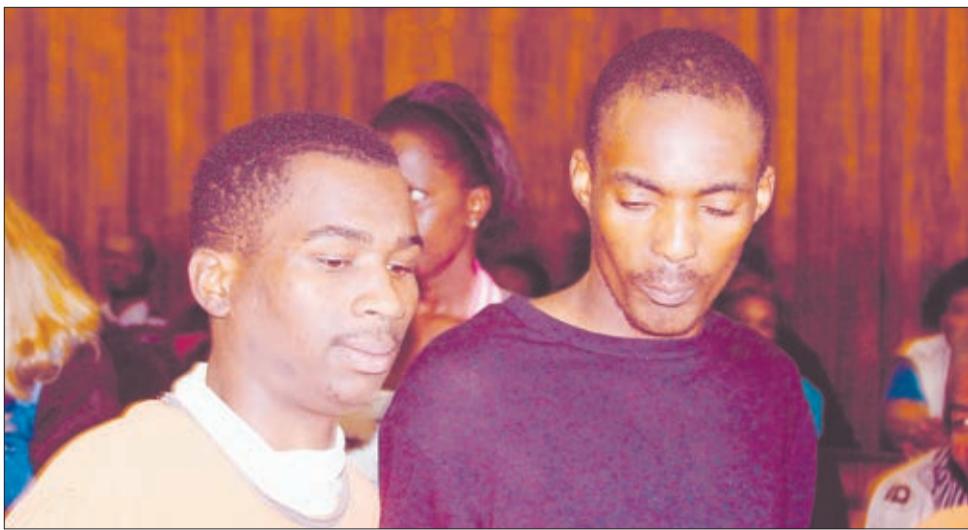
SEE PAGE 8

CHECK OUT

Autodealer inside Alex News today



INSERT



TWO of the four accused in the murder of Emmanuel Sithole are Mthinto Bhengu and Sizwe Mngomezulu.

Still unresolved

LESEHO MANALA

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The case of the four accused in the murder of Emmanuel Sithole (alias Manuel Jonas) has been transferred to the South Gauteng High Court and will be heard on 22 June.

The hearing at the Alexandra Regional Court involved the three accused and the fourth, a minor. It was heard in a closed court attended only by relatives of the minor.

Excluded from the hearing were relatives of the late Sithole and the minor's co-accused, as well as the media.

The late Sithole's uncle, Joseph Sithole said the decision by the court to hear the case in camera left them confused by their exclusion as they had attended previous hearings involving

the minor.

He said they were entitled to hear his evidence as he allegedly participated in the murder. The late Sithole's other uncle, Peter Sihlangu, said he was pleased that the matter had been transferred to the high court where he believed an appropriate judgment would be given.

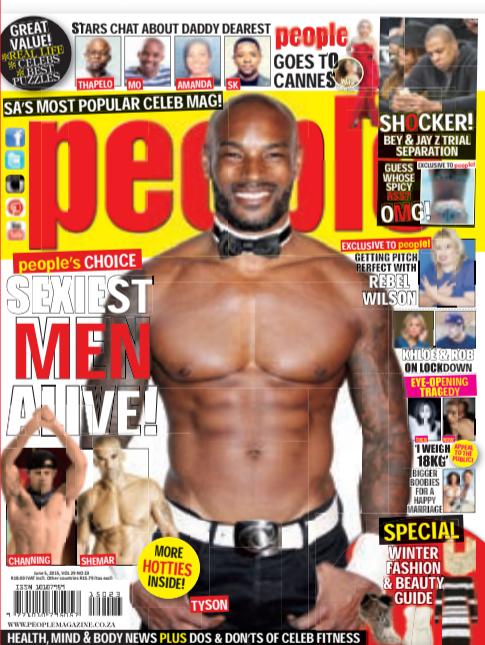
He said the nature of the crime warranted heavy sentences.

"The criminals involved knew what they were doing and, therefore, their sentencing should be severe, irrespective of age," he said.

T Are you happy with the hearing in the case of the accused being held behind closed doors? Tweet us your comments @AlexNewsZA

people

OUR CHOICE THIS WEEK...



THIS week we're having a (good, long) look at some of our most delectable celeb hunks.

Shota

THE famous musician has the sex appeal and amazing bod to match his music skills.

Andile Mxakaza

THIS Isibaya actor has got abs for days! Talk about being ab fab!

Omari Hardwick

HAVE you seen this steaming hot actor in Power? He's too hot to handle!

D.B. Woodside

MMMM... Dark American chocolate – one of our favourite kinds!

Tom Hardy

CAUTION: The Mad Max charmer's body is highly addictive... Could we get a prescription here, please?



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Dog makes recovery

SIPHO SISO

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The Alexandra dog at the centre of an animal cruelty case has made significant progress in its healing process.

The dog was confiscated from a woman who lives in Tsutsumani after it was discovered that the animal had been tied to a pole with wire around its neck for a long period of time. It had suffered deep cuts to its neck, which are now healing well. When the dog was found by the Sandton SPCA on 13 May, it was quite aggressive and terrified of humans.

The dog has been given the name of Gift, and Candice Scorer of the SPCA said she

was happy to report that Gift was making a remarkable recovery.

"We have been working with him daily, and due to his injuries, he was terrified of humans and quite aggressive," she said.

"We are happy to be able to share that his wounds are now almost completely healed, and he has completely come out of his shell and is working towards becoming a beautiful, happy four-legged friend."

"Gift is almost ready to go home to a loving family, so please do spread the word," said Scorer. An animal cruelty case has been opened against the woman and the inspectors are working to have a full prosecution to ensure justice is served, Scorer added.

Fast action, quick arrest

SIPHO SISO

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A quick reaction by Metro police led to the arrest of two of 15 men who allegedly stormed a scrap metal dealer and robbed it of R80 000.

Police spokesperson Wayne Minnaar said a massive manhunt is underway for the other 13 suspects who escaped.

"Police are hot on their heels and we are confident of an arrest soon," he said.

The men are said to have stormed a scrap dealership in Wynberg at about 4pm on 25 May and held the owner at gunpoint and robbed

him of R80 000 before fleeing in various cars.

Patrolling Metro officers received the news and rushed to the scene and cornered two of the 15 men who were still trying to get away in a VW Polo and a green Fiat Uno. Minnaar said he was not certain whether any money was recovered from those arrested. Both cars had been reported stolen.

The arrested suspects are currently being detained at Bramley Police Station and are expected to appear in the Alexandra Magistrates' Court later today, though Minnaar could not confirm this.

Creche owner sentenced

LESEHO MANALA

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The owner of a creche in Alexandra who ordered two toddlers to re-enact a sex scene after they were caught in a toilet and filmed them has been sentenced.

Daphne Sithembe, whose creche has since been closed, was given a five-year suspended sentence for compelled rape and her name will be submitted to the National Register for Sex Offenders, a move that will bar her from working with children in the future.

Sithembe was also told that whenever she seeks employment that involved working with children, she was obliged to disclose her conviction, failing which, her sentence would automatically kick in.

Sithembe was sentenced for the offence that occurred in February last year at her creche in her home in 3rd Avenue.

The facts of the case were that caregivers in Sithembe's creche caught the toddlers, a five-year-old boy and a two-year-old girl, having sex in a toilet.

They reported the matter to the principal who then ordered the children to re-enact the sex act and then took out her phone and recorded them.

She claimed that she wanted to have evidence to give to the children's parents in case they

denied it.

In mitigation of sentence, Sithembe's lawyer said she had pleaded guilty to the charge in order not to waste the court's time, and agreed that it was a serious offence that involved young children. The lawyer said she had shown remorse for her actions.

Passing sentence, the court said although she had admitted guilt, the courts were obliged to pass stiff sentences in cases of child abuse.

"This case will also serve as a deterrent to other people who might want to commit similar offences," the court said.

"The court has taken into account her personal circumstances as a pensioner and breadwinner for grand- and great-grandchildren.

A five-year suspension, coupled with the registering of her name on the sexual offenders' register was enough punishment," the court said.

A member of the public who preferred to remain anonymous, said this should be a test case for creches to make sure they followed appropriate regulations when entrusted with the education, care and development of children.

"It is important to ensure creches operate within the confines of the law and caregivers are given appropriate skills, knowledge and training in order to gain the parents' and the children's trust."

Response to duo's horrendous ordeal

SIPHO SISO

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METRO police have responded to the story of a Randpark Ridge couple that allegedly 'endured a horrendous ordeal' at the hands of their officers.

Spokesperson for Metro police, Wayne Minnaar alleged that the couple sped off when they were being approached by the officers on foot after stopping their patrol vehicle behind the couple.

He said a chase ensued and the couple was cornered as they tried to off-ramp the highway.

He said the man, the driver of the car, was then arrested and put in the back of the van while another officer drove the car as both of them were allegedly too drunk to be allowed behind the wheel.

It is claimed the officers drove the couple to the Marlboro pound where cars

confiscated from drunken drivers are kept, and parked the vehicle in the hope that they would arrange for someone to drive the woman to her home.

When they returned to pick her up and take her home, she was nowhere to be found.

At Sandringham Police Station, the man is said to have refused to allow blood to be drawn.

He was then handcuffed so that a sample could be drawn, and a charge of drunken driving was then opened.

The woman denied the couple ever fled the scene and were caught at the next off-ramp of the N1 from William Nicol towards the south.

"We did not speed off, we did not run away from the Metro police and they did not arrest us on the said off-ramp," she said.

"This is getting ridiculous and I will not comment any further as the case is now in the hands of my lawyers."

Is xenophobia gone?

LESEHO MANALA

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Xenophobic attacks on foreign nationals appear to have disappeared, but not without leaving both local and foreign emotional casualties.

The attacks are said to have raised tension, fear and suspicion among locals and foreigners who had become friends, sharing the good and the bad in their lives. This chasm will take time to heal, if ever.

Although the situation may now seem normal with flare-ups a remote possibility, nothing can be ruled out. The worst casualty of the incidents was the government which was left scrambling for answers. Some of the attempts appear to have succeeded, in that some leaders of the SADC countries accepted national leadership's condemnation of the acts and its message of apology. This after demonstrations and marches in other African countries condemned the acts.

What both locals and foreign nationals now await are concrete measures to ensure the condemnation is translated into action that will discourage anyone from inciting incidents which have been occurring almost annually since 2005. Some have called for a programme to re-educate society about the country's international obligations on the care and support of refugees and migrant seekers. Others urge that migrants be confined to camps where they can be assisted and accounted for.

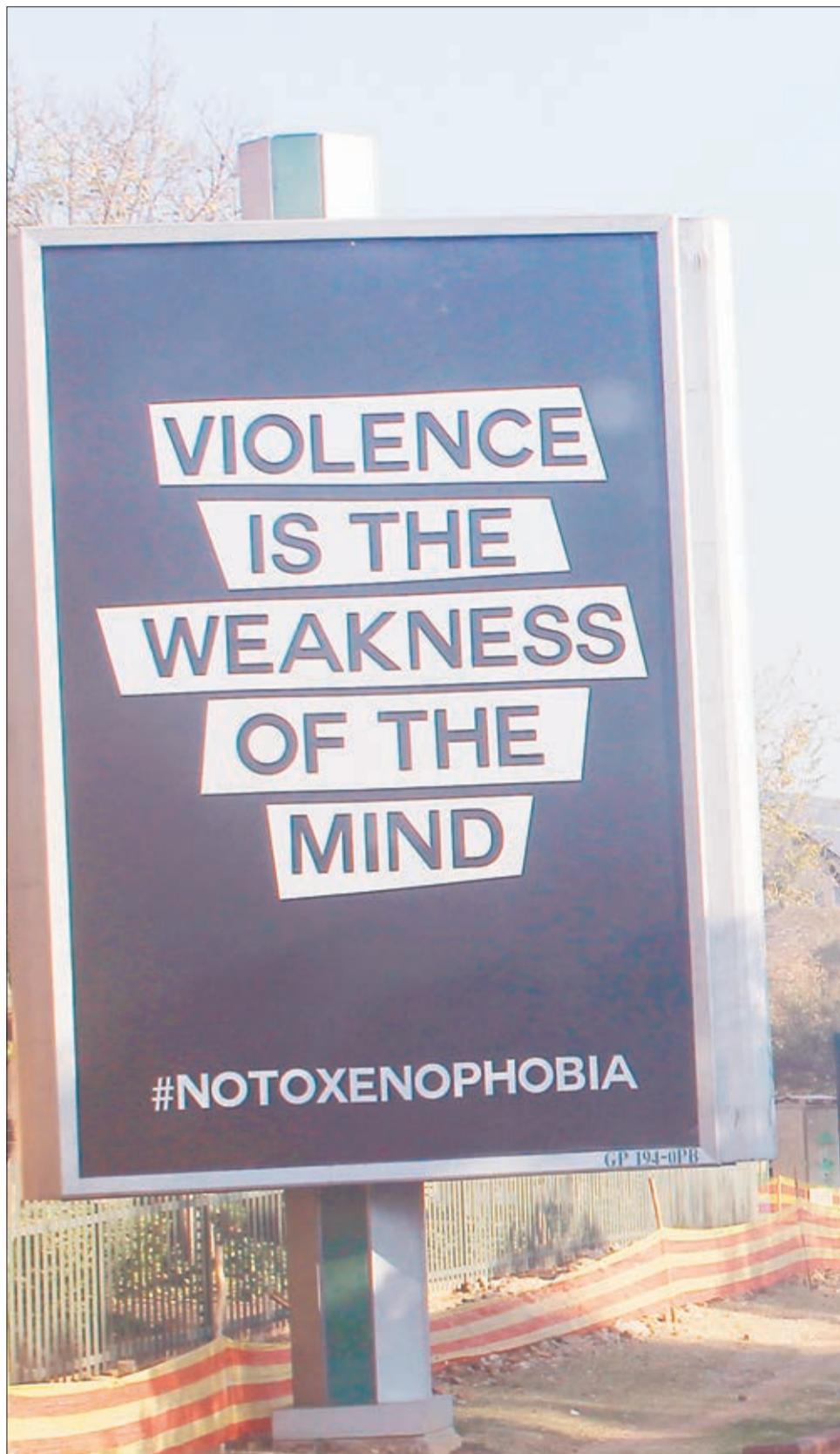
Another opinion is that migrants should continue to live in communities where their skill in business and their hard work can influence locals, while communities can continue to benefit from the proximity of their businesses. Yet others say Africa's history of neighbourliness should be taught to children so that they can grow up with empathy for their fellow human beings.

It remains to be seen what government has in store as a long-term solution to eradicate the negative image the country has developed.

In anticipation of government's action, some have taken steps towards a solution which may be short-term. Newspaper advertorials, posters and unco-ordinated campaigns by some organisations and also government departments have condemned the act.

But without concrete plans and corresponding long-term activities to change attitudes, their effect will fade leaving the ground fertile for flare-ups to reoccur.

Also, those prosecuted for the attacks will not act as a deterrent as they will soon be forgotten behind bars while those guilty of lesser offences will be released after some time to enjoy normal life.



A BILLBOARD message on Grayston Drive denounces violence.

Sharing food with roaches and rats

SIPHO SISO

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Mcebo Dlamini has called on Alex residents to turn their anger against their leaders who have deserted and left them in filthy conditions to share their food with cockroaches and rats.

The axed Wits University SRC president also accused Vice Chancellor Adam Habib of abusing his power by suspending him as SRC president.

The firebrand student leader was speaking in an interview with *Alex News* after delivering his fiery speech at the poorly-attended and -organised Africa Day celebrations at the Alexandra Stadium.

Asked on what grounds the vice chancellor could suspend an elected student leader, Dlamini retorted: "We have taken Habib to court over his abuse of power. Who's he to suspend a student leader elected by the students to represent them? Where does he get that power from?"

Dlamini was suspended after a furore caused by his remarks in a Facebook post that all white people had traces of Adolf Hitler in their blood.

In his address, Dlamini introduced himself as 'the axed SRC president' of Wits and immediately condemned the black-on-black violence, saying people were leaving the real

culprits of a black man's suffering sitting pretty and still looting the continent.

"I am referring here to the white monopoly capital that is sucking and stripping our continent naked of its resources while we fight over trivial issues like selling sweets and cigarettes at the corner of a street," Dlamini said.

"When are we going to wage a war against white supremacists who continue to loot our continent, kill our leaders, arrest some of them and demonise others."

Instead of focusing their anger on 'poor' immigrants, Dlamini urged Alex residents to put the blame for their plight squarely on the shoulders of their leaders.

"They have deserted you and left you

in this filthy environment to share, not just your food with cockroaches and rats, but your beds as well. Our leaders need to be told this in their faces," Dlamini said.

E Do you think Adam Habib had the authority to sack Mcebo Dlamini from his post? Tweet us with your comments @AlexNewsZA

FIREBRAND Wits University student leader, Mcebo Dlamini says they have taken Wits to court over his dismissal.



Stop illegal dumping

LESEHO MANALA

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Ward 81 councillor Mokgadi Radebe has appealed for the strengthening of illegal dumping bylaws in Alex and citywide.

Radebe's ward, which includes parts of Alex, Riverpark and Lombardy East, has been affected for years, especially along the Jukskei River bank.

The city council accuses unscrupulous building contractors of dumping their rubble in the Alex area because of the lax enforcement of anti-dumping bylaws. It is also alleged that some Alex residents charge dumpers a fee to use council land.

Radebe said the implementation of bylaws alone won't eradicate illegal dumping, as some of it was done at night and in the early morning.

"The public needs to help council by alerting law enforcement whenever they observe such acts happening," she said.

"Usually it takes time to offload a full truck, and by that time law enforcement agents should have arrived to apprehend the perpetrators. Public vigilance working alongside police is necessary."

Radebe added that the development of housing at previous illegal dump sites partly addressed the problem, but dumpers always found new places to dump.



COUNCILLOR Mokgadi Radebe.

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FROM THE
DEPUTY EDITOR
Daniella Potter

Awareness days

AWARENESS days help us understand and take action, and this year's World Hunger Day, which is celebrated annually on 28 May, brought some stomach-grumbling realities to light.

World Hunger Day was started by The Hunger Project UK in a bid to highlight that one ninth of the world's population lives on less than £1 (about R18) a day.

The figures are hard to swallow but beyond the facts, figures and dictionary definitions of what it means to be hungry, sometimes the best way to understand something is to practise it.

The journalists of Caxton Joburg North's newsroom therefore took on the challenge to consume only R18 or less of food items on World Hunger Day.

It took a long day of grumbling stomachs, hunger pangs and aches and pains for the journalists to understand their own definition of what it means to be hungry, but while it is a step in the right direction, understanding the problem is not enough to make an impact in our communities.

World Hunger Day also aims to inspire people to help others to end their hunger and poverty and to become self-reliant. As The Hunger Project UK states, chronic and persistent hunger occurs when people lack

the opportunity to meet their basic needs through learning skills or earning enough of an income.

While it is not going to take one day a year to resolve the problem, awareness days such as World Hunger Day will hopefully spur individuals, communities, organisations and governments to take steps to resolve the problems and challenges on a regular basis. An individual with an inspiring way of making a small difference in the community is Nerine Gardiner, who is known as the Girl With Cake. Every week, Gardiner bakes a cake and hands it out to someone who she believes is deserving of some love.

What we can learn from Gardiner's acts of kindness is that we do not need to wait for specific awareness days to take action, nor do we need lavish budgets or long-term time frames. All it takes for individuals to make an impact in the community is to lend a helping hand one day at a time with the resources available to us, but the important thing is that we take action.

i View the acts of kindness of Girl With Cake at www.girlwithcake.co.za and read how Caxton Joburg North's journalists spent their R18 on food supplies at www.alexnews.co.za



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NEWS METRO NEWS SCHOOLS SPORT GALLERIES OPINION ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS CLASSIFIEDS

Why oh Africa?

Danai Pachedhu writes:

WHY am I not proud that my hair is kinky, my skin dark and my nose wide?

Why do I believe that to be beautiful I must be thin, light skinned and have wavy hair?

Why do I not speak your language with pride, why can I no longer speak your mother tongue?

Why do I no longer sing your songs with pride, listen to your stories and enjoy your rich and natural foods?

Africa Why?

Why does my community no longer raise me any more, why is my brother not my keeper, why?

Why does my brother fight me, fight his brother, his community and his fellow Africans?

Why am I scared of my sister, my brother, my neighbour, my community, my king?

Why don't our ancestors guide us, solve our problems, and mediate in our conflicts anymore?

Africa Why?

Africa why do others eat your food when your children are dying of starvation?

Why do your children suffer so much when you are the richest continent on this earth?

Why do you allow your children to die in numbers of disease, starvation, war and crime?

Why are your children homeless, living in shacks with no running water or proper sanitation?

Africa Why?

Why do your children not know how to respect you, to treat the ones who have raised them? Africa why are your children not

being taught *ubuntu* when you are the cradle of mankind?

Why do your children show anger by destroying those very things that will benefit them tomorrow?

Why have your children become a lawless society who does not believe that you can lead them?

Why have you allowed us to destroy, to give away, to sell and to barter your land and your resources?

Africa Why?

Africa, thousands of your children die at sea every year trying to run away from you? Why?

Why do I no longer hear songs of joy, ululating, drums of peace and maracas, instead I hear only hooters, guns, my angry brothers and sisters and my fighting community?

Why do I not know what it means to be African?

Why am I not proud to be African?

Africa why?

Oh Africa what have we done? Oh mother Africa how do you continue to sleep when your children need you?

Bring back Patrice Lumumba, Steve Biko, Mbuya Nehanda, Julius Nyerere, Jomo Kenyatta, Kwame Nkrumah and Haile Selassie.

Bring back Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo, Walter Sisulu and all those greats who truly understood what it's meant to be African.

Africa why did they have to die?

Africa Why?

Help us find dads

The Alexandra Cluster of the Social Development Department writes:

Lesedi Kayleigh Mafatshe (11) is looking for her unknown father. The child's late mother was Obakeng Emelda Mafatshe.

The cluster is looking for Elliot Thebehadi, the father of Simphiwe Lucky Maphalala (14). Thebehadi's whereabouts are unknown and the child's late mother was Cythia Maphalala.

Sbusiso Mhlangeni (11) is looking for his unknown father. The child's late mother was Zandile Mhlangeni.

Lehlogonolo Cosmos Phiri (6) and Aron Simangaliso Phiri (5) are looking for their unknown father. The children's mother is Hlengiwe Martha Phiri, who is unable to care for them due to illness.

The cluster is looking for Moagi Ndlovu, the father of Lethokuhle Prince Fanie (7) and Buhle Fanie (9). The whereabouts of Ndlovu are unknown. The children's late mother was Nonhlanhla Priscilla Famie.

Siyanda Sibanda, born on 5 September 2008, is looking for his biological father, Mathenjwa Mnwandla. The child is currently under the care of Princess Noluthando and Tukulansi Stanslouus Sibanda.

Queen Nandipha Mlambo,

born on 24 June 1999, Ntombizodwa Beauty Mlambo, born on 5 December 2005, and Rudo Phumzile Mlambo, born on 24 January 2011, are all looking for their unknown father. The children's late mother was Sbongile Sophy Mlambo, who was born on 14 November 1983.

The cluster is also looking for the unknown father of Makhanani Permission Maluleke, who was born on 21 December 1999. The child's late mother was Lizzy Octavia Maluleke, who was born on 15 March 1964.

Matsatsi Charity Mathula, born on 1 August 2006, is looking for her unknown father. Her late mother was Lydia Motshewa Mathula, who was born on 24 October 1983. Bokang Kgalelo Pooe, born on 28 June 2002, and Puseletso Pooe, born on 5 January 2005, are looking for their unknown father. The children's late mother was Jusmini Nthuti Pooe, who was born on 2 October 1979.

Nbabenhle Vincent Nondzaba, born on 30 January 2005, is looking for his unknown father. His late mother was Gloria Bulelwa Nondzaba, who was born on 5 May 1976. Details: Social workers Mahlatse Dialet 011 355 9283; Mpumi Mndaweni 011 355 9202; and Rebecca Motaung 011 355 9487.

The editor welcomes your letters. Letters must include the writer's name, street address and telephone number, but a nom de plume may be used for publishing. The opinions expressed in letters are not those of the *Alex News*, Caxton or its staff. E-mail alexnews@caxton.co.za fax 086-674-6303 or write to *Alex News*, PO Box 1797, Pinegowrie 2123.

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Mercedes-AMG unleashes C63 range

> SEAN NURSE

Are cars becoming too fast? That's a question I thought about at the launch of the latest generation Mercedes-AMG C63 and C63 S this past week. Having driven both the "normal" and S variants, I have to conclude, the level of performance available is staggering however the same can also be said for its Bavarian rival.

→ HOW FAST COULD IT POSSIBLY BE?

Both models are equipped with the brand's new M177 4.0-litre twin-turbo V8, which, in regular C63 trim, pushed out 350kW/650Nm and in S guise, produces 375kW/700Nm. Helping get all that power down is the AMG Speedshift MCT seven-speed sports transmission with Comfort, Sport, Sport +, Individual and even Race settings if you have the S model.

Despite the fact that each weighs over 1 700kg, both variants will get to 100km/h in around four seconds, thanks to a launch control system and will go on to a limited top speed of 250km/h. The performance on offer is seriously impressive and the fact that there's so much torque and such a strong pull to redline, means you don't notice the car is turbocharged as much as you think you would.

→ DOES IT SOUND "AMG"?

In the development of the car, the engineers went through over 50 different sounds before settling on one

and what a sound it is! Picture running a V8 through Victorian plumbing; there's gargling, popping, barking and even a forced induction warble from the exhaust.

→ RIDE AND HANDLING

There is a duality about this car. With the adjustable suspension and drivetrain settings on tap, you can have an utter monster that works around the track with goodies such as a mechanical rear-locking differential (electronic in the S model), sticky tyres from the factory and massive brakes. Readers beware though, with the amount of power available, the Stability programmes should be left on or partially on, even though performance is very restricted with the former. Switching the systems off requires a very experienced driver and some funding for rear tyres.

On the other hand, you can leave everything in Comfort and the car whispers along with a scarcely believable consumption figure of 8.2 litres/100km; suffice to say we didn't replicate that on launch. There is a level of comfort and usability with the car, making this a car one could use every day.

→ STYLING AND INTERIOR

The way a sports saloon looks is important and I believe that Mercedes-AMG has nailed it with the new über C-Class. It looks more substantial and that's because it is. Engineers had to make the front-end longer to accommodate the massive engine. This, in my opinion, makes the car look the way the new C-Class should always

have looked, while the addition of racier front and rear bumpers amid the variants, makes the entire car look that much more special. The S and Edition 1 models look even better but be prepared to pay for the added aesthetics.

Inside the cabin on the more bog standard model, is a pretty normal C-Class affair, while the aforementioned S and Edition 1 models look decidedly different and sportier inside. Therefore there is a C63 for most tastes, which is what the market demands... individuality.

→ VERDICT

I know I did mention - at the beginning of this article - cars might be getting too fast, but that's just the natural progression of things. Each generation of car has to be faster and better or else it's considered a failure. In the case of the C63 there are settings that make it exploitable for most drivers, while in terms of pricing, it is highly competitive against its primary rival, the BMW M3/M4 duo.

→ MAINTENANCE

The Mercedes-AMG C 63 S and C 63 come standard with a six-year/100 000km maintenance plan.

→ PRICING

Mercedes-AMG C 63 S	R1 163 800
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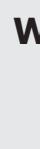


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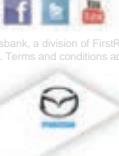
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Toyota's new Hilux in seven points

> JUSTIN JACOBS

@Thejustbin

@thejustbin

IT'S consistently one of the best-selling bakkies in South Africa and has proven itself over the past 45 years. The Toyota Hilux is as South African as boerewors, braais and the word, "lekka." The Hilux has been fighting off some stiff competition from Ford, Isuzu and Volkswagen over the past few years and that's because the Hilux got a bit "long-in-the-tooth."

A replacement was needed and if you are keen on social media then you would have seen many posts about the all-new 2016 Toyota Hilux-pictures and even videos. It's been a long time coming as photos were leaked a few months ago. We have some information on the new Toyota Hilux that should interest you:

#1: The Hilux has been completely re-engineered from the design to the option of new engines.

#2: At the front we have a very beefy looking grille, LED day-time running lights and big, chunky wheel arches to enhance its presence.

#3: We have heard reports of keyless entry and start on the top-spec models, as well as more legroom in the rear. The loading tray is also slightly bigger than before.

#4: Inside the New Hilux, things have been drastically changed. From images that we have seen there is a centre touch screen mounted to the newly designed dashboard. We have also seen pictures of rear air vents for passengers.

#5: At the rear you can expect an inbuilt reverse camera on top-spec models and a new rear bumper design.

#6: Underneath, Toyota has decided to stick with the leaf-springs and dual shock absorbers. The leaf-springs are longer, but Toyota claims that the ride comfort is much improved. It still features

drum brakes at the rear.

#7: We know that the Hilux will launch in Australia with the option of two turbo diesels in the form of a new 2.4-litre and 2.8-litre and two petrol engines. These engines will offer more power and improved fuel efficiency. They will also offer the Australians a six-speed automatic gearbox with what Toyota calls an Intelligent Manual Transmission with rev-matching technology - a bakkie first. There will also be a six-speed manual gearbox available. We don't have many details on power outputs but numerous sources abroad reckon the 2.8 is good for 130kW and 450Nm of torque when fitted with the automatic gearbox.

As for pricing on the new Toyota Hilux we'll have to wait until it is officially launched in South Africa, which should be towards the beginning of next year. At Autodealer, we're looking forward to the arrival of the new Hilux and the epic battle it will have with the newer Ford Ranger.

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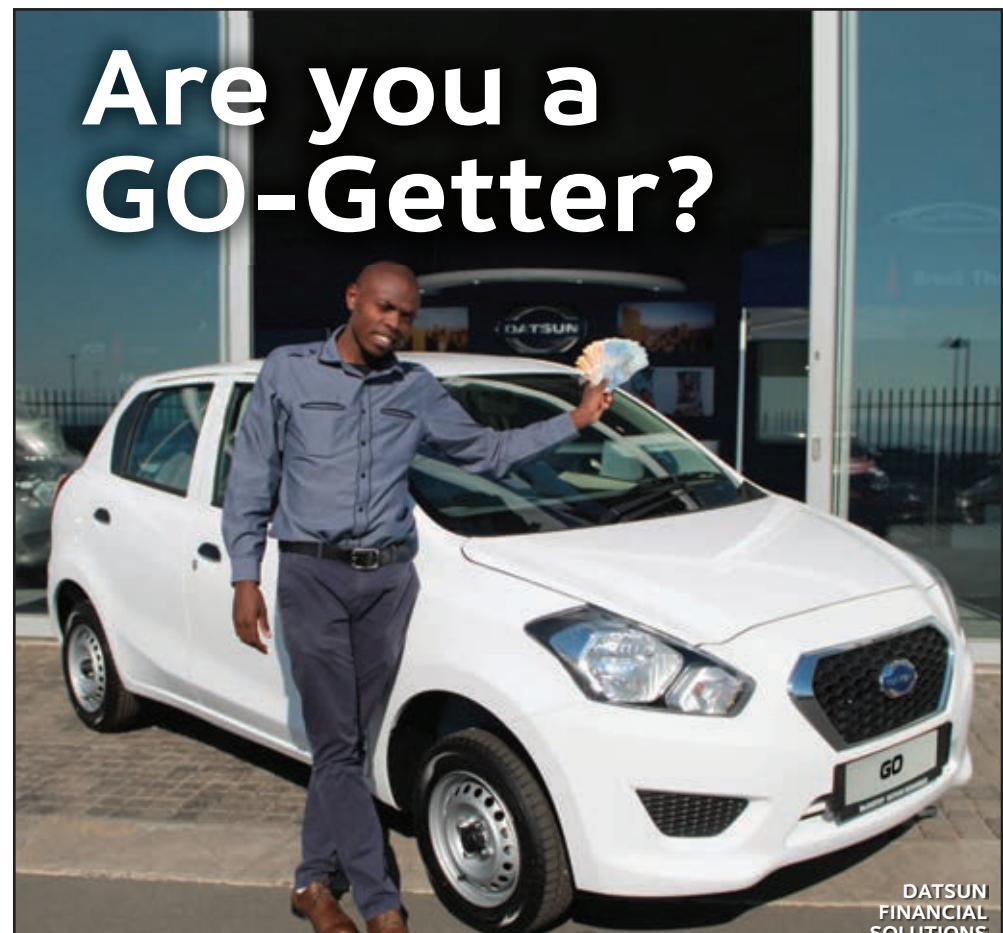
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Ex-con puts past behind him

SIPHO SISO
siphos@caxton.co.za

Bongani Gilbert Maseko is a 35-year-old Alexandra resident and ex-convict who has put his past behind him.

Instead of prowling the streets of Sandton in search of victims, Maseko, a former accomplished thief, gangster and hijacker in his early teenage years, is now an accomplished actor who is making waves in one of the latest hard-boiled drama productions to hit the small screen of e.tv.

Maseko, who plays gang leader Axe Mbazo in the drama series *Z'bondiwe*, which means a well-stirred pot in Nguni, has adopted the sharp impact of theatre as his new 'shotgun' to fight the very crime he was responsible for promoting.

Born in 1980 in Alexandra, Maseko, with no fixed address as the family lived a nomadic life, was arrested in 1996 at the age of 16 and sentenced to eight years for housebreaking and robbery.

While serving time in jail and messing up with the gangs inside prison, Maseko met the late doyen of theatre in Alex, Bongani Linda, and his life turned a corner. Linda had come to perform for the inmates with his theatre group, Victory Siyanqoba Theatre Company.

"I got excited and blown away by their drama, such that I visualised myself one day being a top-class actor, and immediately decided this was the way to go," said Maseko.

"I got encouragement from Linda too and ever since that fateful day I have never looked back."

Maseko, who was known as Shotgun in

"JAIL is not a good place but it helped me, as I met a person that changed my life," says Bongani Maseko about his meeting with the late Alex theatre doyen, Bongani Linda.



criminal circles, was released in 2004 and took up theatre to fight crime. He is now a crime-fighting ambassador who visits schools and uses public gatherings to pass on the message that 'crime does not pay'.

"Some may say I am still promoting crime by playing the role of a criminal gang leader," he said.

"No, I am actually fighting crime. The

English say 'get a thief to catch a thief', and I say let a criminal tell other criminals how bad crime is.

"Many pastors often come to prison to try and convert us but we always dismissed them, saying what do they know about being a criminal?

In *Z'bondiwe* we have set out to use these very criminals to show how devastating crime can be in the hope that criminals

may desist from their criminal ways. "Maseko is soon to be married to his sweetheart, Khosi Phaag, with whom he has two kids, Mbali (10) and Nkosinathi (4).

What do you think of criminal Bongani Maseko's rebirth? Like the Alex News Facebook page to post your comments

Exposing local talent

LESEHO MANALA
lesehom@caxton

International award-winning artist Delta Choshi was back at home in Alexandra to host the Live. Learn. Inspire. Dreamworks Talent Show at the Eastbank Hall.

Supported by other artists, Choshi intends to host this talent show annually in a bid to expose local talent. Artists from five-year-olds upwards used the event to showcase their talents through solo, duet and group performances in poetry, dancing, choirs, trumpeting, *maskadi* and others.

Choshi said the mission was to expose and refine talented artists who could become brand names locally and internationally if given the chance. This, she said, also required the support from parents and the community.

"The support will inspire them to believe in themselves and to grow their talents into careers which can be acknowledged on a bigger global platform and not to be discouraged by

their poverty-stricken backgrounds," she said.

Director of the show, Sherole Webster commended the event which, she said, assisted aspiring artists to get to the next level. She urged parents to encourage their children when asked to attend rehearsals as that was the only way for them to succeed in the profession.

Despite their fame, Choshi said the artists who supported her were keen to develop local talent. The artists wanted to encourage talented youth to use their talent to convey positive messages against social ills such as xenophobia.

The young artists who took part received certificates and goodies in acknowledgement of their willingness to use the platform to profile themselves and their skills.

Details:
livelearninspire.dreamworks@gmail.com

Is Choshi's initiative appreciated in Alex? Let us know on Alex News Facebook page



Photo: Zanele Siso of Zanephoto

EXHIBITION: Nandos employees Emmanuel Shumba and Andrew Ncube; Alexandra's Eastbank resident, Gugu Ngwenya; and Thabo Sikhwane stand before one of the murals at an exhibition at Constitution Hill.

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Complete the application by no later than 24:00 on Tuesday, 30 June 2015.

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Tender Notice and Invitation to Tender

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Contract Number: 038.3.6.2\CN471

2. Urban Designer
Contract Number: 038.3.6.2\CN472

Request for Proposals for Civil Engineers and an Urban Designer for the design and implementation of public environment upgrade and pedestrian links: Phase 3.

Tenderers are invited to submit proposals for the design and implementation of the Alexandra public environment upgrade and pedestrian links to Jukseki River. The public environment upgrade is meant to provide safe pedestrian mobility to the residents of Alexandra. The JDA is requesting proposals from experienced companies and joint ventures to render project management. The scope of works entails detailed design and construction of sidewalks, minor roads upgrades, street lighting and general public environmental upgrade.

Queries relating to the issue of tender documents may be addressed to Mr Masakane Mbali, tel. (011) 688-7859, fax: (011) 688-7899 or e-mail: mmmbali@jda.org.za

A compulsory briefing session with representatives of the Employer will take place at the Johannesburg Development Agency's offices, 3 Helen Joseph Street (formerly President Street), Newtown on 5 June 2015, starting at 12:00.

1. Civil Engineer
Contract Number: 038.3.19.2/CN473

2. Traffic Engineer
Contract Number: 038.3.19.2/CN474

3. Urban Designer
Contract Number: 038.3.19.2/CN475

For the Alex Loop – Rea Vaya Bus Rapid Transit Project: Implementation 2015/16 to 2016/17

The JDA is requesting proposals from a Civil Engineer, Traffic Engineer and Urban Designer for the design and implementation of the Alex Loop Rea Vaya Bus Rapid Transit project in the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years, ie July 2015 to June 2017. The design phase is to be completed in 2015/16. The scope of works will comprise a feasibility study, traffic engineering, concept design and detailed design of the proposed route. The proposal must include all services required to deliver the above stated scope of works.

Queries relating to the issue of tender documents may be addressed to Mr Sithandile Xhanti, tel. (011) 688-7800, fax: 086 710 8190 or e-mail: sxhanti@jda.org.za

The physical address for collection of tender documents is the Johannesburg Development Agency, The Bus Factory, 3 Helen Joseph Street (formerly President Street), Newtown 2000. Documents may be collected during working hours after 12:00 from Friday, 29 May 2015.

A non-refundable tender fee of R500.00 must be deposited into the JDA's bank account as follows: Standard Bank; Account No. 000198366; Branch Code: 000205. Proof of payment is required upon collection of the tender documents.

The closing time for receipt of tenders is 12:00 on Friday, 12 June 2015. Telegraphic, telephonic, telex, facsimile, e-mail and/or late tenders will not be accepted.

Tenders must only be submitted on the tender documentation that is issued. The retyping of the tender document is not permitted.

Requirements for sealing, addressing, delivery, opening and assessment of tenders are stated in the Tender Data.

The JDA's selection of qualifying tenders will be at the JDA's sole discretion and will be final. The JDA does not bind itself to accept any particular tender and correspondence will only be entered into with the successful tender.

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Live an Active Life-Gauteng, 45-60 yrs. Very active, run, cycle, hike and attend gym often. Non-drinker, care about my appearance. I'm not a pretender, looking for a special lady 45-60yrs slender and medium build, honest and trustworthy.ID: 1920

Spark for Life-Gauteng(Pta) 25-34 yrs. White male, self employed and financially independent. Like to go out, be sociable and meet new people. Like to live life to the full. Love to meet a fun, outgoing lady who has a spark for life.ID: 1201

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OBED Malinga stands among the cabbages in the impressive co-operative garden.

Dump to garden

LESEHO MANALA

lesehom@caxton.co.za

Some Alex residents have turned a former dumpsite into a productive garden which is contributing to their household food security.

The garden along Vincent Tshabalala Road in Tsutsumani is a marvel to see for those familiar with the area. Just last year it was an unsightly site of rubble. The garden is part of the city council's programme on food security for the poor who are urged to work as co-operatives and learn self-reliance skills.

One of the members, 72-year-old Obed Malinga said the project was a gift from God which, as a pensioner, would keep him active. Malinga said if well-managed, the garden would change the lives of its members who

have already started raising income from selling spinach they planted in January. "Our crop list includes cabbage which will be out to the market from June, and onions, green peas, tomatoes and beetroot, with more to be added depending on the season," he said.

Malinga, who studied agriculture at school, said he and mostly women co-op members start weeding, cultivating and watering the garden at dawn. This was a challenge to the women who first had to attend to their household duties of cleaning and preparing children for school. "They [women] are more committed to ensuring household food security, as some of them are also single mothers," said Malinga. "Men have to change their attitude about working the land."

He said despite promising

production, more work had still to be done to improve soil fertility of the garden through organic manure, and tilling more land to increase capacity. He added that members needed further skills to improve production, marketing and financial management.

He appealed to the city council to improve water supply and to provide them with sufficient implements and tools.

Malinga urged schools to visit the garden so that pupils could learn about food production, the ecosystem, and appreciate nature and the environment.

Are gardening co-operatives a good option to ensure food security? Let us know on the Alex News Facebook page



SEEDLINGS at the co-operative garden in Tsutsumani.



A CROP of tomatoes at the co-operative garden in Tsutsumani.



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The National Film and Video Foundation, an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture, has bursaries available for film and TV students.

The foundation is a statutory body mandated by an act of parliament to spearhead the equitable growth and development of the SA film and video industry. It stimulates and advances skills development, meets the current needs of industry, and ensures the industry's future growth and competitiveness.

The foundation provides funding for students in financial need to pursue film and TV-related studies at all accredited tertiary institutions in South Africa.

The foundation has been awarding on average 60 bursaries per annum to qualifying students who are academic achievers, and passionate about the film and TV industry, yet lack

adequate financial resources to further their university studies.

To qualify, students must already have been selected at an institution that offers formal qualifications such as a diploma or degree, be able to demonstrate financial need, and possess a good academic record and provide their latest academic reports.

They should also motivate in detail why they should receive a bursary, and submit a completed application form and attach all required documents as per the application. More importantly, students must be South African citizens or have permanent residency or have refugee status. Completed application forms must be handed in by no later than 31 July. Details: Lebohang Khunou 011 483 0880 or lebohang@nfvf.co.za

t Are you a student in the arts and need financial assistance? Make use of this opportunity and tweet us with your comments @AlexNewsZA

New mobile dog clinic

SIPHO SISO

siphos@caxton.co.za

The Sandton SPCA will hold a mobile clinic for dog owners in and around Alexandra on 20 June.

Sandton SPCA's Candice Scorer said the mobile clinic would be stationed at the Marlboro Secondary School on 622 Zinnia Drive,

Marlboro Gardens from 9am to 12pm. Staff members and volunteers of the Sandton SPCA will spay, deworm and vaccinate dogs.

Scorer urged residents of Alexandra and the surrounds to bring their dogs on the day.

Details: Candice Scorer 011 444 7730; info@sandtonspca.org.za or www.sandtonspca.org.za



ANOTHER mobile clinic Dog Day comes to Alexandra.

SPORT



Need art bursary? See Page 7



THE fall guy, Mxolisi Mngomezulu, former technical director of Alex football.



MAFIKA Morajane, secretary general of Alex football, praises the work of the former technical director.



CHAIRPERSON of Alex football, Maisha Molepo, is not amused by the challenge from Mngomezulu.



THE new technical director of Alex football, Tsitsi 'Tsivo' Letsoela, has been there before.

NEW TECHNICAL DIRECTOR OF ALEX FOOTBALL

SIPHO SISO
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The Alexandra Northrand Local Football Association has a new technical director of football, Tsitsi 'Tsivo' Letsoela.

He takes over from Mxolisi Mngomezulu, who vacated his position soon after the elective annual general meeting of the association, at which he challenged the incumbent chairperson, Maisha Molepo and lost by 18 votes to six.

Mngomezulu is said to have quickly drafted a resignation letter after the meeting, which was handed to the association executive but was

not immediately accepted, as the association wanted to meet and discuss the issues around his resignation with him in person.

According to secretary general, Mafika Morajane, Mngomezulu is said to have cited personal reasons behind his decision, leaving the board with no alternative but to accept his resignation.

"We have lost one of our best technical directors in Mxolisi, and as the association, we would like to assure him that he is more than welcome to work with us in whatever capacity he feels we can use him, and from time to time we shall have to continue to ask for his assistance."

"The departure of Mxolisi is not just a loss to the Alex association but the entire Johannesburg Region of the South African Football Association because of his astute knowledge of the game of football and his amazing technical expertise," Morajane said.

He showered the outgoing technical director with praise for a job well done. "The Alex LFA [local football association] is what it is and enjoys success and dominates the region and other inter-LFA competitions because of him and his coaching skills," Morajane said.

The Safa Johannesburg Region also recognised Mxolisi's skills and appointed him as a co-coach of the regional team that participated in last

year's Gauteng Future Champions tournament in Eldorado Park.

But the chairperson of the association, Maisha Molepo, was not amused by Mxolisi's challenge at the polls. He said soon after defeating him, that there was a 'third force' in Alex football that was bent on trying to put coaches in positions of administration.

"I always thought [Mxolisi] was the best at his position [technical director] but now he wants to run the association as well. Good luck to him."

T Do you know of the existence of a third force in Alex football? Tweet us with your comments @AlexNewsZA

Bigger and better Map tournament launches

SIPHO SISO
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A football spectacle is expected following the launch of the 15th edition of the Maimane Alfred Phiri (Map) annual amateur soccer tournament in Alexandra.

The juniors category of the games kicked off over the past weekend, involving the last 16 teams of the four age groups of U13, U15, U17 and U20.

In the past 14 years of the tournament, the Map games have produced numerous players that have made it into top flight football. Players such as Benson Mhlongo of Platinum Stars, Siphiwe Tshabalala of Kaizer Chiefs, Papi Mngomezulu of Jomo Cosmos, Thapelo Leshabane of Thanda Royal Zulu, Philani Cele of AmaZulu and Khethukuthula Zwane of the University of Pretoria.

The seniors category games will be launched after the amateur tournament is over.

The semi-finals for the amateurs will be held

on 13 and 14 June, with the final scheduled for 16 June which is Youth Day.

Besides a floating trophy for the winners in the various age groups, finalists will also receive medals and sets of playing kits.

Defending champions Real Madrid is one of the most enterprising teams in the U13 group and it will be interesting to see whether they can defend their trophy.

In the U15 division, Super Stars are the defending champions with Rainbow Stars the defending champions of the U17 category. In the U20 group, the most feared team is defending champions Gauteng FC.

Speaking at the launch, former technical director of Alex football, Mxolisi Mngomezulu urged football lovers in Alexandra to come in their numbers to the stadiums to watch *idiski yaseKasi* at its best. Moffat Mofokeng of sponsors Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa, said the company kept on innovating each year to keep the Map games vibrant and exciting for football lovers. Robert Langa, deputy chair of



MAP tournament organisers Percy Ndaba conducts the draw for the games with the help of Ntswaki Hlomuka and Refiloe Maseko.
Photo: Zanele Siso of Zanephoto

the Alexandra Northrand Local Football Association applauded Maimane Phiri, the founder of the tournament, for his investment

of more than R10 million in the community of Alexandra and the football fraternity since the inception of the games in 2001.