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Entrepreneur takes the herbal route

page 2

Tembisa builds its own media house

page 5



January 19, 2018

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Iso Lomphakathi - The Eye of the Community

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Grandfather Andries Sehlabelo, Jessica Sehlabelo, grandmother Kgomotso Sehlabelo and mother Ouma Sehlabelo.

HIGH 'SEVEN' FOR JESSICA

• **Jantji Ngwenyama**
email: jantjin@caxton.co.za

A 17-year-old Tembisa matric learner has come out shining with seven distinctions.

Jessica Sehlabelo said she was very excited about her performance in her subjects and was hopeful that financial help would come her way to enable her to study further.

Jessica achieved 100% for physical science, 100% for accounting, 98% for mathematics, 95% for life sciences, 89% for life orientation, 86% for Sepedi (home language) and 86% for English (first additional language).

This has earned Jessica a university pass, but she fears she might not even get to see the tertiary gates due to financial constraints at home.

The former Ingqayizivele High School learner resides with her two pensioner grandparents and her unemployed mother, who are worried about her future since

there is no money to provide her with a higher education.

"I have applied for a bursary at different institutions with no luck. One institution told me not to call them and to wait until they call me.

"At first I was excited about my marks, but now I worry about the money to go and study further," said Jessica.

Unemployed Ouma Sehlabelo, Jessica's mother, said she was very happy about her daughter's success.

"This means I did my job as a mother in raising a dedicated child."

Jessica's grandmother, Kgomotso Sehlabelo, said she wished for her granddaughter to study further.

"We raised Jessica on our state grants. I am very happy for my granddaughter. She must study and come back to look after her family," she said.

Grandfather Andries Sehlabelo said Jessica had made him and the family proud and begged her

not to disappoint the Sehlabelos and to work harder in getting an education.

Asked how she managed to achieve so many distinctions, Jessica said she studied both harder and smarter.

"As a learner, you must have a strategy and understand your circumstances. Find a suitable

Despite her remarkable results, she still has no funding to further her studies

time to study, a time that will suit your personality.

"If you are the kind of person who can study at night, wait for everybody to go to sleep. When they are asleep, get up and study. If you have a different personality and you can't study at night, you can use a library as an alternative.

"Have study groups - they do help. Everyone deserves a short break, but do not prolong it un-

necessarily," said Jessica.

She added that learners need to believe in themselves and must have a goal from the beginning of the year.

"These are my coping strategies, and every learner must develop their own coping strategies. For example, I am a down-to-earth person and I like to keep to myself. That is why I prefer to study at night.

"Have a supportive family. My family used to remind me to stop watching TV and go back to study."

She said her family would also exempt her from doing all the household chores so that she could focus on studying.

She also commended her teachers for their hard work, saying they went the extra mile.

"Our teachers would not continue to another chapter until we all fully understood the current chapter.

"I want to thank my family and all my study buddies. I learned a lot from them. We took afternoon

classes, morning classes and we even took extra lessons during lunch if we did not understand something.

"Teachers were there for us throughout and they were pivotal to our success. If a subject is well introduced by a teacher, it will spark the learner's interest, so I think teachers in other schools must show some level of dedication to their work.

"Learners must approach all subjects with equal respect and devotion," Jessica explained.

She added that teachers need to understand that all learners are different and should give them their full attention.

They should also try to dispel the myth that mathematics and science are difficult by making those subjects more interesting.

Jessica is pleading with potential sponsors to give her the opportunity to further her studies by giving her financial assistance in her actuarial science studies, which she is planning to do at the University of the Witwatersrand.

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THE HERBAL OPTION FOR HANGOVERS

● **Jantji Ngwenyama**
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FOR many kasi residents the festive season calls for a party lifestyle regardless of the health hazards that come with such behaviour.

The fact remains that alcohol abuse breeds alcohol dependency and causes damage to a number of organs in your body.

The reality is that until the party is over, we do not want to spoil our fun by pondering scientific accounts of how we should take care of our health.

When January comes, only then do we worry about rejuvenating our bodies and go back to the drawing board to devise a plan of action for 2018.

For that we need an intact physical system and a sober intellectual capacity to pursue our goals for the new year.

Lewis Jele is the man who will be waiting on the sidelines, ready to assist binge drinkers and party animals on their way back to reality.

The owner of Ezulwini Herbal Shop said after heavy festive season partying, many will be in need of an effective detox programme.

At the same time, people will be reluctant to opt for mainstream medi-

cal assistance, as medical aid funds will have been depleted and there will be little money left to cover such costs.

Lewis said herbal cures are not a replacement for professional medical assistance but can be a quick intervention to aid a return to a healthy lifestyle.

Therefore, heavy drinkers can take some time detoxing their liver and other organs without having to spend a fortune.

Natural herbs can be included as ingredients when putting together a rehydrating detox to return your body to its normal state.

Milk thistle is, among other herbs, a potent solution that can be used to detox the liver after binge drinking. For other options, Lewis is available to give advice.

The entrepreneur said he has been in the herbal industry for a number of years and has seen people successfully improve their health merely by using herbs.

"At some point in my life I experienced deteriorating health and sought help from medical practitioners, but I couldn't find any," Lewis said.

"I turned to herbal healing and that is where I found assistance. That is how I developed an inter-



Lewis Jele shows some of the herbal health products he distributes.

est in the herbal business."

He said he saw a business opportunity in helping to enlighten people about the healing properties of natural herbs.

Ezulwini Herbal Shop currently acts as a distribution outlet for many recognised and approved herbal brands in South Africa.

"I am also pursuing an

academic qualification in herbal medicine," Lewis said. "My involvement in the herbal industry is not about profit but is more about my passion and love of sharing knowledge about natural healing and herbal medicine."

He said people are misinformed about herbs and the potency of natural

healing, therefore they accept negative stereotypes that need to be dispelled.

"Before what we call civilisation today, humanity survived on natural herbs. I believe God provided natural healing to mankind through nature."

His Ezulwini Herbal Shop has been in existence for the past three years, and his clients regularly express their gratitude for the service he renders.

He said starting the business was not easy because his family disapproved of his involvement in the herbal business, but the community of Tembisa embraced his venture.

Through word of mouth and the respect of the community, Lewis' business has gradually grown.

"We have immunity-boosting products, detoxing products and skin treatment products," he said.

"In the future I will add organic supplements and other health products to compete with shops like Dis-Chem and Clicks, which operate in affluent suburbs.

"I encourage people to consult medical practitioners before they seek alternative healing," he said.

To find out more about natural healing products, call 064 933 4096.

Scrapyard supervisor nabbed following tip-off

The Ekurhuleni North Cluster SAPS arrested a man for possession of copper cables and diesel at a scrapyard in Tswelopele on January 8.

Ivory Park SAPS spokesperson Captain Bernard Matimulane said the patrolling SAPS team received a tip-off regarding the copper and diesel, both of which are thought to have been

stolen.

"Upon their arrival, the police were received by a 40-year-old man who introduced himself as the supervisor of the business," Matimulane said.

"Once they had explained to him the reason for their visit and observed the proper protocols, the police found 1 200kg of copper and more than 600 litres of

diesel and oil."

The supervisor failed to explain to the police the origin of the items, which were subsequently confiscated. The supervisor was arrested.

Matimulane said the combined value of the recovered items is estimated to be more than R500 000.

"The origin of these items will form part of

further investigation by the Ivory Park SAPS detectives," he said.

Ivory Park Police Station commander Brigadier David Mbongeni Ngcobo commended the members of the public who tipped off the police about these items. He called on others to emulate this fine example of civic duty, saying this kind of attitude will go

a long way in combating the trade in stolen goods.

"The informants in this matter have done us proud, and I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation for these valuable efforts," Ngcobo said.

"Any member of the public familiar with Ivory Park and the crime situation here knows we need this level of assistance in spades."

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Bloodstains found in the house where the murder was committed.



The house where the murder was committed.

FIVE ARRESTED FOR MURDER

MEMBERS of the SAPS Ekurhuleni North Crime Combating Unit arrested five suspects, aged between 21 and 28, after they allegedly murdered a woman and attempted to murder her sister in Ehlanzeni Section, Tembisa, on the night of January 9.

"A woman and her sister were found lying in a pool of blood," said Tembisa South SAPS communications officer Capt Neldah Sekgobela. "One woman's throat was slit, while the other woman was stabbed and sustained multiple injuries to her body."

"The victim whose throat was slit was certified dead on the scene. The other woman was still alive."

The Ekurhuleni North police were responding to a complaint of a house robbery when, on arriving at the scene, they found the two victims.

"Preliminary investigations revealed that one of the suspects is a nephew to the deceased victim's late boyfriend."

"The uncle's body was also found dumped next to Leralla Train Station, Tembisa, in December."

Sekgobela said it is al-

leged that the nephew was seen using his uncle's bank card to buy liquor for his friends after the death of his uncle. She said the suspect only later discovered that his uncle's girlfriend's cell-phone notified her of every transaction made on his uncle's bank account.

"The suspect allegedly organised his friends to meet at his uncle's house, where he also stays. He wanted them to help him kill the late uncle's girlfriend."

"The victim was called to come to the house."

"She came with her sister and upon arrival she was

brutally murdered and her sister was stabbed."

The suspects were arrested on January 10 while walking the streets with bloodstains on their shoes and still in possession of Okapi knives.

The Ekurhuleni North Cluster commander, Gen Vincent Leshabane, thanked his members for their swift action to ensure that the suspects were brought to book as soon as possible.

The suspects are expected to appear in the Tembisa Magistrate's Court soon on charges of murder and attempted murder.

Undercover operation gets results

Three Tembisa men believed to be involved in a spate of armed robberies were nabbed in Alberton on December 27 following an undercover sting operation.

Police spokesman Brigadier Hangwani Mulaudzi said the suspects, aged 30, 27 and 22, were allegedly involved in a chain of robberies where they would follow victims from banks and rob them at gunpoint.

"A multi-agency crack team, spearheaded by the Hawks' Tactical Operations and backed up by Crime Intelligence, the SAPS Special Task Force, the Gauteng Saturation Team, Pretoria Dog Unit, the SAPS Airwing and Tracker, monitored the suspects' movements on Wednesday."

"The trio were allegedly seen moving around different shopping malls in and around Johannesburg. They allegedly decided to drive towards the Alberton area, where a decision was taken to take them down," Mulaudzi said.

The team seized two unlicensed firearms. It was established that the car the men were using was hijacked in Norkem Park earlier this month. Investigations are still ongoing to link the seized firearms and suspects to other crimes.



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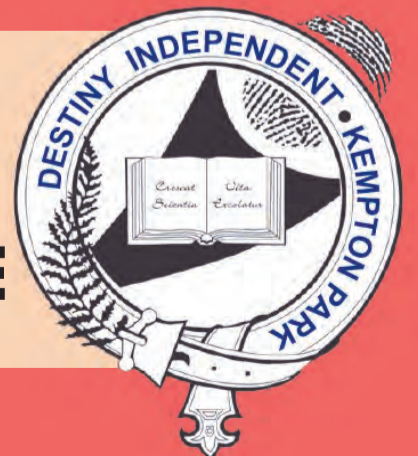
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Written by: Pastor Welcome Thamsanqa Mlungisi Dlalisa.

ENTREPRENEUR'S BREW

A STRATEGIC REVIEW TO BOOST YOUR BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

NEW Start: Entrepreneurs Strategic Review, Part 2.

In this article we continue to examine the subject of a strategic review. However, this week we go into more detail to examine and highlight both internal and external factors that need attention as part of a strategic review. Without these, a strategic review is incomplete.

The following structured approach to a strategic review is suggested:

1. The approach must be an inclusive approach.

Remember that you, your employees and clients have a unique view of your business. If you need to obtain a correct, comprehensive and proper view of the performance of your business, you need to solicit feedback from all these stakeholders.

If you as the owner work alone in this process, you deprive yourself of critical feedback.

All stakeholders are looking at your business from different angles. You look at it from inside

and your clients look at it from outside. You will definitely see different points of view.

This means you need to allow your employees to give honest opinions or views of your business. Never try to protect yourself. Remember, you are not your business and your business is not you. If you protect it, you are stopping it from self-correction and this will delay your growth and productivity.

2. Review of performance against targets.

The next important thing to ask is, did we meet all our targets? These include the following, among others:

- profitability targets
- training targets
- new client targets
- market growth or market share
- new markets
- new products.

You need to check how you ended the year against the set targets. If you fell short, you need to acknowledge it and not

play cover-up. If you accept where you are, then you can do something about it.

3. Examine the root causes of failure and/or success.

Being honest during the stage above will be critical to this stage.

At this stage, you are asking 'why'. "Why did I fail?" This process requires honesty.

You may have many causes that are external factors, but they could also be internal. For example, you might just be a bad leader who is blocking innovation, or you might be slow to make decisions. You might lack the skilled personnel. You might lack the necessary technology that could help steer and elevate your business forward. Often at this stage, most entrepreneurs hide by blaming tough economic conditions while avoiding dealing with prevalent internal issues.

4. Agree on solutions and remedies or areas of improvement.

This stage is the turning point

in this game. Once you know the root causes, you can design solutions for your problems.

These may include providing new technology, training your staff, moving the location of your office, introducing new products and services, proper marketing of your business or proper performance management systems.

If your employees know that you do not have a system to measure performance, they might not work the way that they should.

Remember, we said this process must be an inclusive, honest and frank engagement where you obtain feedback from your staff and clients.

In order to help entrepreneurs of Tembisa to implement what we are learning via these articles, I have set up what I call the Joseph Achievers Mentoring (Jam) programme.

The programme is based on Joseph in the Bible who rose to prominence despite his back-

ground.

I am encouraging all Tembisa residents to join. This programme is aimed at supporting all residents of Tembisa, but it targets mainly entrepreneurs, young professionals, university students and high school learners.

It offers a range of support initiatives, including career guidance, training and mentoring. Many have enrolled in the programme and receive business management training and mentoring.

I challenge you to enrol for Jam in order to propel your life or your business to new heights.

To register for Jam, send an email to dlalisa.rhi@gmail.com or call the numbers below.

To learn more about all our activities and support programmes, including Jam, visit us at Royal-House International Church, 532 Entshonalanga Section, Tembisa.

For more information contact Pastor WTM Dlalisa on 083 395 1165.

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Illegal liquor outlet busted

It took police officers more than five hours on December 20 to close down an illegal liquor outlet in Birch Acres extensions.

In the process, 1 886 litres of alcohol, six refrigerators and a music system were removed from the premises, said Capt Lesibana Molokomme, the spokesperson for Norkem Park SAPS.

He said the operation took place in conjunction with provincial liquor officers under the leadership of station commander Col Tobie Strauss. The operation started at around 10am. The owner of the outlet was given a fine of R1 500 for operating illegally without valid documents.

Strauss thanked everyone who took part in the operation.

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Three jailed for serious crimes

Three men started serving hefty sentences in December for a variety of serious crimes committed in Tembisa and neighbouring areas.

Ivory Park SAPS spokesperson Captain Bernard Matimulane said his superior, Brigadier David Mbongeni Ngcobo, welcomed the sentences recently handed to the three men by the Tembisa Magistrate's Court.

"The men were sentenced for hijacking, attempted murder, business robberies, possession of unlicensed firearms and ammunition, and kidnapping," Matimulane said.

"Jabu Sithole, 36, and Sibusiso Ndlovu, 33, were each sentenced to 50 years in prison, while the third convict, Muzi Hlatshwayo, 31, was sentenced to 25 years in prison. The three, who are all from Tembisa, have commenced their sentences."

According to Matimulane, the three men were arrested by the Ivory Park police in August 2015 shortly after they hijacked and kidnapped a woman at gunpoint in Ebony Park, Midrand.

"Police began searching for the vehicle as per specifications given to them," Matimulane said. "SAPS members came across the vehicle, gave chase and ended up recovering the vehicle and two firearms, arresting three of the four suspects and rescuing the victim."

"The fourth suspect is still at large and the police haven't stopped looking for him."

"Police opposed bail from the start, as it transpired shortly after their arrests that all three of them are repeat offenders," Matimulane added. "Some of the crimes were committed in Tembisa."

Ngcobo said the sentences would serve as a strong deterrent to those who knew the suspects and harboured criminal aspirations of their own.

"Hopefully, the community of Ivory Park, Tembisa and the adjacent areas will breathe a sigh of relief," Ngcobo said. "Credit must be given to the members whose quick response led to the speedy arrest, and to the detective whose tireless efforts resulted in the conviction."

Anyone with information relating to any crime is urged to call 08600 10111 or to SMS Crime Line at 32211.

TEMBISA BUILDS ITS OWN POWERFUL MEDIA HOUSE

● Jantji Ngwenyama
email: jantjin@caxton.co.za

THE media industry is run by powerhouses that young stars from the dusty streets of Tembisa find difficult to infiltrate.

As a result, many dreams are shattered and talents are wasted because doors to the mainstream media industry are not easy to open.

Three lads from Tembisa felt it was a waste of time to sit and whine about the status quo in the media industry, so they resolved to start their own media house, called Odd Dreamers (OD).

"Odd Dreamers is a movement that focuses on various forms of media in the entertainment industry."

"The movement comprises producers, artists, DJs, photographers and dancers," said the trio.

They believe Odd Dreamers is going to be a kasi media house that will enable local skilled professionals to exercise their talents.

Moses 'FKA' Mawela is an in-house producer at Odd Dreamers.

He says he started producing in 2012 when he was making house music his main genre.

"I was mainly influenced by local house producers in the first few years of my production career."

"Thereafter I started venturing into hip-hop and I never looked back," said FKA.

Based in Tembisa, Thabo Charles 'Verbal Dweeb' Kganakgomo is a rap artist and poet. He also does commercial hip-hop. Verbal Dweeb is an artist at OD.

He started rapping in 2014 by taking the art as a hobby until he met FKA Moses in 2015. That is when he started taking music seriously.

"I am skilled mostly in multi-syllables, storytelling and comedy rap."



Thabo Charles Kganakgomo, Moses Mawela and Mohau Mosia.

Most of my rap skills were influenced by major artists such as Eminem, Immortal Technique and other underground rappers.

"My versatility around rap and the fact that I am musically inclined helped me to get onto shows like *One Mic* on SABC1."

"I came out in second place because they said my English was too Western and that they had to give first place to a vernac rapper," says Verbal Dweeb.

He says his recent track, titled *Problem*, is buzzing locally and is yet to be heard nationwide.

DJ Mohau Mosia is an event manager and co-founder of Jump Street Events, which hosts an annual event called One Night Stand (ONS) on December 31.

"The show has been running for two years now. I also play in events and shows around Tembisa. I am a manager at Shadung Music alongside Sir-Addendorff," said DJ Mohau.

Since the beginning of this year the three media practitioners have dropped singles such as *Tired*, featuring Kay Sleazy and Evo.

Problem, performed by Verbal Dweeb, and *Drunken Master*, performed by Evo, were both produced by FKA Moses.

They said their recent track, *Chillisi*, is trending and has been making waves ever since it dropped on November 20. *Chillisi* is performed by DJ Mohau and features Kay Sleazy.

Odd Dreamers are working alongside Vikki The Groove and No Limits Entertainment in managing Verbal Dweeb as an artist.

"We are young stars with fresh minds and we are willingly giving our best in everything we do."

"We had a major setback when our studio equipment was stolen in 2016 together with our recorded projects, but that didn't stop us from moving forward, because all our work depends on our skills and our work ethic," they explained.

Their plans for 2018 are to run a fully functional media house, to drop a few projects, including a few EPs (extended play) and to follow this up with Verbal Dweeb's first official mixtape, which is a work in progress.

Man (31) arrested for illegal gun possession

Two crime prevention officers from the Ivory Park SAPS have, following a tip-off, arrested a Kaalfontein man for possession of an illegal firearm and 17 rounds of live ammunition.

The 31-year-old was nabbed on January 12.

According to the Ivory Park SAPS communications officer, Capt Bernard Matimulane, the police officers were given a detailed description of the suspect and the vehicle he was driving. They proceeded to look for the suspect and found him at Kaalfontein Corner, the newly opened shopping complex.

"The police searched the suspect and the vehicle. He was in possession of an illegal Norinco firearm plus 17 rounds of live ammunition. The serial numbers of the firearm had been erased."

"The suspect was arrested immediately, brought to the

Ivory Park SAPS cells for detention and has since been charged with illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition," said Matimulane.

The station commander, Brig David Mbongeni Ngcobo, has once again thanked the local community for the tip-off which led to the arrest.

"Lest we forget, these are the two officers whose quick response in 2015 culminated in three lengthy convictions by the Tembisa Magistrate's Court a month ago, in which the three suspects were sentenced to a combined 125 years in jail. We again thank them for responding to their call of duty with such positive attitudes and outcomes," said Ngcobo.

He reiterated that the SAPS remains grateful for the continuous tip-offs they get from the community, as they are an effective way of keeping criminals and crime in check.

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0031 Deaths

SIBEKO NTOMBIZODWA GLORIA



Age: 55 yrs of 428 Ethapeni Section Tembisa. Passed away 10/01/2018. She will be buried on Saturday 20/01/2018 at Mooifontein Cemetery at 10:00 after a service at Home at 07:00. Tel: 064 126 2871 Lindiwe or Nqobile 061 768 2955

ZH080203

LAMOLA MARIA KINKIE



Age: 49yrs of 4690 Elibaba Section, Tembisa. Passed away 15/01/2018. She will be buried Saturday, 20/01/2018 at Mooifontein Cemetery at 08:00 after a service held at Home at 06:00. Tel: 073 130 8170 George

ZH080205

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Index

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0620 Business for Sale
0650 Loans & Investments

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Index

PROPERTY TO LET
0407 Accommodation/ Rooms to let
0414 Domestic Accommodation
0421 Factories/ Industrial/ Workshops
0428 Flats
0435 Farms & Plots
0442 Garden flats/ Cottages
0449 Houses
0463 Offices & Shops
0470 Retirement Villages
0477 Storage/ Parking Facilities
0484 Townhouses/ Simplexes/ Clusters/ Duplexes
0491 Wanted to Rent

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Cynthia Lubisi (blue cap) with the children she trains in modelling.

TEENAGER IS A ROLE MODEL FOR PEERS

● Jantji Ngwenyama
email: jantjin@caxton.co.za

CYNTHIA Lubisi is a 16-year-old model instructor who is determined to change the face of her township through modelling.

The former Peter Zongwane Primary School learner said she first became interested in beauty contests when her school hosted its first pageant.

In October 2015, she started to organise children in her street and to train them in how to model.

All she wanted was to keep her peers off the street while nurturing their talent in modelling.

"Modelling will help children with social skills and self-esteem," Cynthia said.

However, she struggled with a lack of money for buying things such as prizes and sashes, and

as a result, many of the children did not take the initiative seriously.

"It was difficult at first because a lot of these children left the modelling group, and that is when I had to involve parents to make my dream possible," Cynthia explained.

"I needed parents' support, so I wrote letters, which I delivered from house to house, inviting them to a meeting where I explained my plan."

All the parents were impressed and responded positively, pledging financial assistance for the project.

"My mother also helped me a lot. I now have a mentor who helps me with many things in modelling," Cynthia said. "She tells me what to do and we practise."

Cynthia's first pageant was called Mr and Miss Kgotso Street 2016.

"I staged it on our street and invited neighbours. It started small, but this year Mr and Miss Kgotso Street 2017 improved a bit."

She plans to one day host big pageants similar to Miss Tembisa and Miss South Africa.

Her challenge now is to get sponsorships, and she is looking for someone who can take her pageants to the next level.

Anyone who is willing to help the teenager take children off the streets can call her on 073 932 8957 or 073 717 9178.

"What this child is doing is amazing for her age," said community member Kagiso Modiba. "She is building the community, and the community must help her."

"It takes a community to raise a child, and for that reason let us all get involved."

Pageant aims to empower

● Jantji Ngwenyama
email: jantjin@caxton.co.za

Siyaphumelela Youth Development Initiative (SYDI) in collaboration with the Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation recently facilitated a workshop for 50 semi-finalists in the Miss Ekurhuleni Ambassador pageant.

Participants from different townships gathered at the Moses Molelekwa Arts Centre on December 6 to take part in a skills development programme aimed at empowering young women with entrepreneurial knowledge.

Organiser Phil Mhlongo said the programme also aimed to promote women's emancipation and empower young people to become future leaders in business and society at large.

"The pageant is not only about beauty but it is also

a youth programme that is meant to assist in fighting poverty, teenage pregnancy, unemployment, drug abuse and all other social ills faced by the youth."

Mhlongo said about 2.7-million young South Africans are unemployed and lamented that the government will not be able to assist every one of them.

SYDI aims to bridge this gap, he said.

SYDI partners with the Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation to help the City of Ekurhuleni foster social cohesion and unity in diversity.

"The partnership carries the hopes, aspirations and expectations of over three million people of Ekurhuleni," said Mhlongo.

This is the second edition of the Miss Ekurhuleni Ambassador pageant, and SYDI is in collaboration to host the pageant for three years.

"We are happy that we have covered all three regions of Ekurhuni and all contestants have responded positively," said Mhlongo.

"The process has been tough and competitive. The finals of the pageant are on April 28 and the prize money is R100 000 for the overall winner.

"All prizes put together are worth R250 000."

Contestants will take part in a second workshop on January 20, and on February 24 the last top 20 will be selected to represent the different regions of Ekurhuleni.

"We are open for sponsors who are willing to come on board to support this youth initiative.

"We urge the community to support the initiative as well. They can visit our Facebook page, Miss Ekurhuleni Ambassador. Our Instagram is Miss_Ekurhuleni."

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DJ LESH SA TO RELEASE SINGLE ON ITUNES



● **By Malebo Tseke**
email: malebot@caxton.co.za

DRIVEN by his love for African house music, local DJ and producer DJ Lesh SA will be dropping yet another hit song, titled *Africa na one*, on iTunes next month.

DJ Lesh SA, whose music is recognised internationally, believes helping upcoming artists is helping him reach greater heights.

“Helping other people makes me a better person every day,” he said.

When asked why he chose to be a DJ, Lesh said he was interested in showcasing the music he collected during his primary schooling.

He aspires to create a better community and to steer the youth away from distractions such as substances.

DJ Lesh SA was mentored by Thabo Small of Black Motion, who encouraged him to conquer all levels of the music industry.

In September 2016 he released a single titled *All or Nothing*, featuring a musician called Inami, from Nairobi, Kenya.

The single gained a lot of momentum internationally.

He shot the music video for *All or Nothing* in August last year.

While recording this single in Kenya last year, he did a couple of radio interviews and was then inspired to work on the project for *Africa na one*.

His real name, Thulani Nyambi, was signed under the United Kingdom-based record label DM.Recordings.

DJ Lesh SA is a resident DJ at one of the SABC radio stations, Ligwalagwala FM, every Saturday, with Fortune Ntekati as co-host, from 6pm till 10pm.

He started his musical journey at the age of 16 on the streets of Tembisa.

DJ Lesh SA has performed alongside icons such as Black Coffee, DJ Tira, J Fresh, Davido, Black Motion, DJ Shimza, Cuebur, Wizkid, Jus Nativ and BobEzy, among many others.

He released his first solo EP, titled *Cue and Play*, and a track from the album, titled *Jus Move*, was featured on music legend Kevin Saunderson’s WMC 2015 chart during March.

The track was number 4 and also featured on D-Malice’s Top 10 for March.

The track *Cue and Play* was featured on a compilation of Soul Candi Records titled *DJ Essential Vol.2*.

DJ Lesh SA is the owner and founder of TAXII Visuals in partnership with Katlego Thamage, a record label which intends to help upcoming talent by building local artists up from nothing into a potential investment brand.

TAXII Visuals specialises in music video production, commercials, documentaries, photography and visual

marketing.

DJ Lesh SA said he got to where he is today through persistence and hard work, regardless of what other people said.

“I receive lots of inspiration from the township. And it’s priceless. I don’t think I would be the person I am today if it wasn’t for Tembisa. All the pieces are coming together and I am very excited about the future and also grateful for the blessing,” added Lesh.

DJ Lesh will be dropping another house hit next month on iTunes.

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Submit sports news via email: tembisan@caxton.co.za



Innocent Ntlhane (13) will be building a new future for himself at the Transnet Football School of Excellence.

Soccer talent recognised

Jantji Ngwenyama
email: jantjin@caxton.co.za

A Tembisa teenager is starting a new year with new friends in a new environment at the Transnet Football School of Excellence.

Innocent Ntlhane (13) is among the learners selected to attend the school, where he and his peers will receive a comprehensive education that emphasises academic skills, life skills and football development.

According to the South African Football Association (Safa) website, the school identifies talented young football players from rural and underprivileged communities and prepares them for a professional career on the football field.

"In the winter of 2016 Innocent started doing trials at Safa and he made it through the first stage," said Innocent's father, Abel Khunou.

"He thereafter survived the subsequent cut-offs four times, and as a result he got short-listed to attend the Transnet Football School of Excellence camp, which is a talent scout camp.

"The camp ran from November 30 to December 4."

Innocent said he was very happy to hear the news and immediately saw his chance to become a professional football player.

"At first I was scared when I got to the camp. I met talented young players of different nationalities.

"The trials were not as tough as I expected," he said. "I relaxed and showcased my football skills and after that I had to wait for a phone call for the results."

When Safa called his father with the results, Innocent was speechless and could not believe it.

"I was very happy knowing that I will be attending the School of Excellence as of January 15, immediately after the holidays.

"I want to thank my father for all the support."

Asked what his secret was, Innocent said young players must respect the sport they play and never undermine people on their way up in their career.

SOCCER FAN RETURNS FROM EL CLASICO TRIP

Jantji Ngwenyama
email: jantjin@caxton.co.za

A Tembisa soccer fan joined thousands of screaming fans as they cheered on their heroes at Santiago Bernabéu Stadium in Madrid on December 23, 2017.

Lucas Ngxabi said he went to the El Clasico derby to support Real Madrid in their game against Barcelona.

"I was very excited. I cannot even explain the feeling of seeing all the players coming onto the field to warm up in front of the fans.

"I was happy to see my favourite player, Cristiano Ronaldo. I have never seen a stadium as big as Santiago Bernabéu Stadium in my life," said Lucas.

He said by the end of the game he was heartbroken because the team he was supporting got beaten 0-3 in favour of Barcelona.

"Despite the loss, I was happy to be in Madrid. People there do not speak English, so communication was difficult, but the food is nice, even though I still prefer South African traditional food.

"We went for sightseeing and I loved the experience of exploring Madrid. Things there are organised. It is not chaotic like here in Joburg, and you can tell where all the pedestrians are going (direction). I loved the tour buses. You can get off from one tour bus if you see something that excites you and use the same ticket to board another tour bus that comes by. I loved the sightseeing and the tours," an elated Lucas explained.

Lucas was among the six lucky Hollywoodbets customers sent to Spain, where they got to live every soccer fan's dream and see the El Clasico derby featuring two of the world's top clubs, Real Madrid and Barcelona.

He said his friends and family were



Lucas Ngxabi at Santiago Bernabéu Stadium in Madrid.

happy for him when they heard that Hollywoodbets was taking him and other lucky customers to Spain.

"I used to place my soccer bets, and when I lost I entered my tickets for a lucky draw. Somewhere in April last year I was called by Hollywoodbets and I was informed that I will be among the lucky winners who will be jetting off to Spain. I was very excited by the news."

He said he started to think about all the players he was going to see there and got excited about the thought of flying for the first time and leaving the country for the first time.

"I had the time of my life, even though Messi and his crew tried to spoil it for me. Hollywoodbets made sure I enjoyed every moment of it," said Lucas.

The trip included many first-time experiences, starting with the flight itself, where each of the winners got the chance to travel by plane for the very first time. They also spent four days exploring the city, the highlight of which was a guided tour of the well-known stadium. The match had fans on the edge of their seats.

"This was a fantastic trip! It was such a joy to see our winners' excitement and gratitude. Some of them could not believe that they were sitting at the iconic Santiago Bernabéu, witnessing the El Clasico and seeing two of the greatest players of their time, Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, live in the flesh," said Hollywoodbets' soccer brand manager, Wayde Dorkin.

The group's experience was made even more unforgettable as they also got the chance to rub shoulders with South African soccer legend and Hollywoodbets brand ambassador Jerry Sikhosana, who joined them on the trip. 'Legs of Thunder' (Sikhosana) travelled the world during his playing days, but it was his first time visiting this particular stadium.

Lucas thanked Hollywoodbets for giving him an opportunity to travel to Spain and to be part of the El Clasico derby. He said people shouldn't be sceptical of soccer bets, provided they play the game wisely.



Jerry Sikhosana (left) with three of the six lucky customers at Santiago Bernabéu Stadium in Madrid.