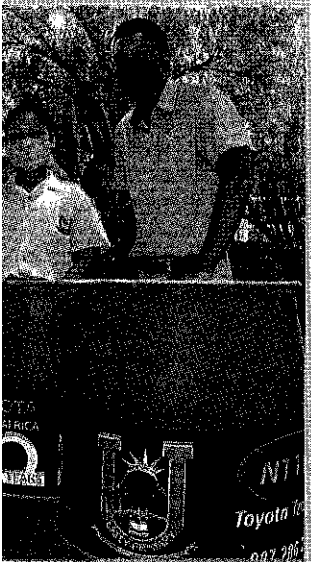


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Toyota Tzaneen. In front are the head boy and girl, Unity head of department, Anne-Marie sales and marketing consultant and Denham marketing consultant.

Politsi takes hands with GTM to cure power crisis

■ Joe Dreyer

With the continuous power cuts costing an average of 1 000 productive hours lost in the Politsi area per year, the farming community pulled together and approached the Greater Tzaneen Municipality with a workable plan.

In an initiative guided by Z22, a team comprised of local farmers and business owners launched an audit of the power grid in their areas during October of 2021. Through this exercise they were able to identify and map the trouble zones which allowed them to action a strategy which they in turn presented to the municipality.

"It soon became apparent to us that most of the issues we face with our continuous power outages could be attributed to small things we as a community could help sort out. Things like vegetation control around your own perimeter for starters, is actually one of the biggest causes of outages, especially during windy and rainy weather," said Niel Scholtz of Z22.

The idea they came up with was to involve everyone in the Politsi area and gather resources such as grasscutters, chainsaws, vehicles, and manpower to form a maintenance team which started clearing the servitudes under all the powerlines in the area. Thus far the teams have cleared 28 kilometres of vegetation in just the last few weeks, and they have 15 more kilometres left before their entire grid has been cleaned.

"This project will become an ongoing maintenance exercise which initially will be conducted bi-weekly and as the system completely stabilizes, should become a monthly or bi-monthly exercise."

The Greater Tzaneen Municipality came onboard immediately and joined the residents on their quest to end the crisis, or at the very least make tending to outages a lot more efficient.

"The involvement of the GTM is on the switching and the

legal side of the project. Before we conduct any maintenance, we get the municipal technicians on site and they switch off the power to allow us to get to work," explained Deon Jacobs, Electrical Supervisor at Z22. "So far, we identified a faulty transformer, some missing links and broken auto-reclosers, which the municipality replaced, and we now have a good working relationship with them, which means we receive speedy service when we have a problem."

One of the other advantages of this project is that through the thorough cleaning and inspection of the powerlines, many previously unseen faults were identified in places that the municipal teams just could not reach, mostly because of the terrain and the overgrown vegetation.

"One of the electricians who services our area has expressed his appreciation as he can now reach an area where for example, links have dropped, in less than half the time he would normally have taken in the past. And because the servitudes are now devoid of any overgrown trees and shrubbery, it makes it much easier to spot the faults on the lines," said Scholtz.

Scholtz and Jacobs approached Westfalia who threw their weight behind the project too and soon all the neighbouring farmers and businesses jumped on board. The project was mapped out in six phases of which four have already been completed. The last stretch of 15 kilometres is expected to be the most challenging as it will cross over the old Sapokoe tea farm and other rugged terrain.

"One of the unexpected offshoots of this project has been the sense of ubuntu it has created. You know, whilst we were busy working the lines, neighbours reconnected after more than 15 years and some met for the first time. This is a great case study of what is achievable when neighbours take hands with their municipality to make a difference together. Politsi area has had no power outages in the last three weeks, and we even had our lights on during the storm at the start of the month."

JACK KLAFF
AUCTIONEERS & ESTATE AGENTS

Z22

AUCTION / AUCTION / AUCTION
27 X TRACTORS / 6 X FORKLIFTS / IMPLEMENTS
MOOKETSI (LIMPOPO)

Instructed by Z22, I will sell by public auction on Thursday the 3rd of March 2022 at 11:00 at Z22, Mooketsi Depot (see Situation) as follows:

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• 7 x 2014 M/F 5460 (4x4) • 2 x 2006 M/F 240 • 1996, 1997, 2000 M/F 384 • 6 x 2015 Landini Landpower 145 DT (4x4) • 1996 & 2 x 1997 Landini Advantage 75F • 1987 Ford 661Q • Ford 6600 • Fiat 76F • 2009, 2010 Same Silver 105DT • Kubota L345 DT

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Viewing 2 March 2022 between 09:00 and 16:00.

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AUCTIONEERS NOTE:

MORE ITEMS WILL BE LISTED. VISIT WEBPAGE REGULARLY!! Most of the items are in a working condition. Don't miss this sale. Visit our web at www.jackklaff.co.za for photos and more details. All equipment needs to be removed by 16h00, 8 March 2022.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

Payment by way of EFT directly after the sale. No items will be removed without proof of payment. VAT is payable. The Seller reserves the right to remove any items before or during the sale. Some items will be sold subject to confirmation. No cash on site.

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BUN

TOMATO

BEEF

BUN

BURGER

area Steelworx building

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Tzaneen moves to digital

Minister for Communications and Digital Technologies, Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, switched off the analogue transmitter in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality (GTM) as part of the department's digital migration programme, on Tuesday, February 8.

"This initiative will help boost media and network services in the municipality and limit the cost of communication by ensuring that communities enjoy the benefit of affordable internet," said Ntshavheni.

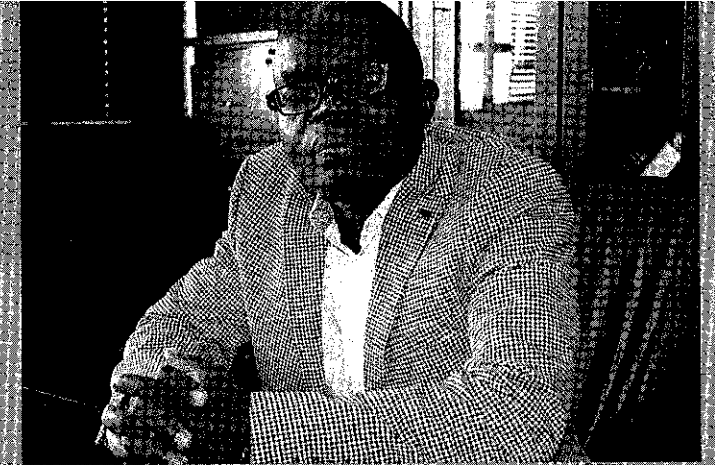
She was accompanied by the Limpopo MEC for Economic Development and Tourism, Thabo Mokone, Mopani District executive mayor, Pule Shayi and Thabo Maunatlala of GTM.

The entourage embarked on a door-to-door campaign in Muhlaba village, where the minister visited the Mushwana and Mhlanga families to interact with them and assess where the installation has been done.

In order to qualify for free government subsidised decoder and installation, South African citizens with a household monthly income of R3500 or less can apply at the nearest post office or through www.stbregistration.gov.za.



Top: Minister Khumbudzo Ntshavheni with Paulina Mushwana to check if the digital migration has taken place. Below: Ntshavheni in the yellow dress, engaging with the villagers during her visit to Muhlaba village.



Quiet Kgatla.

Municipal manager resigns

The Mopani District Municipality (MDM) has accepted the resignation of municipal manager, Quiet Kgatla, during a special council meeting.

According to a media release posted on MDM's Facebook page, his resignation is with immediate effect.

Kgatla was appointed municipal manager in February 2020, having previously worked as the chief financial officer.

In his resignation letter, Kgatla expressed his gratitude to council for the support he received while he was the accounting officer.

"I was privileged to work under the oversight of a very caring and considerate council, yet resilient." It is

not known what Kgatla will do next.

MDM's executive mayor, Pule Shayi thanked Kgatla for his service to the people of Mopani.

"Though relatively young, he has proved to be a skilled and hard-working administrator. We want to thank him for the contributions he has made in our sustained programme of building a better life for the people of Mopani," he said.

According to the media release, council approved the appointment of Tshelo Mogano as the acting municipal manager.

Mogano is the current chief financial officer.

The recruitment process for the position of municipal manager will follow soon.



CHOICE CHARITY SHOP

CHOICE TRUST IS OPENING A SECOND HAND CHARITY SHOP IN TZANEEN AND WE NEED ANY OF YOUR OLD TOYS, CLOTHING, BOOKS AND OLD FURNITURE



Plasies leer PHS 'n kriketles

Merensky se Ockert Schoeman wys sy staal met die kolf tydens 'n wedstryd verlede Saterdag teen PHS. Lees berig op bl. 4.

Liesl Pohl

'n Tragiese motorfietsongeluk het Sondagmiddag Nico Peyper se lewe geëis en sy vriendin, Karen Sonntag, het veelvuldige beenbreuke opgedoen.

Sonntag is tans besig om in Tzaneen Medielinc aan te sterf.

"Karen is Maandagmiddag suksesvol geopereer om van die breuke te herstel," se Helgard De Villiers, komiteelid van die Harley Owners Group Limpopo.

Dinsdagmiddag ten tye wat die Herald na perse gegaan het, het De Villiers bevestig dat nog chirurgie vir Sonntag voorle, maar dat sy reeds wakker is en na die eerste operasies minder pyn het.

De Villiers vertel dat Peyper en Sonntag Sondagoggend op sy Harley Davidson-motorfiets saam met vriende na Polokwane gery het.

Luidens De Villiers het Peyper nie saam met die groep via Magoebaskloof teruggery nie, siende dat hy op Mooketsi woon het hy eerder die R81-pad gery. Tussen 12:00 en 13:00 het 'n

motor naby Sekgopo op die R81 voor hom ingedraai en het hy 'n T-been botsing gemaak.

"Dit is soos om in 'n baksteenmuur vas te ry. Nico het as bestuurder van die fiets meeste van die impak van die botsing ervaar en Karen is bo-oor die voertuig gegooi."

"Nico het Sondagand beswyk aan ernstige inwendige beserings terwyl hulle hom per helikopter van Tzaneen Medielinc na Milpark Hospitaal probeer vlieg het," vertel De Villiers.

Nico was welbekend in Tzaneen se motorfietskringe en was ook 'n tamariepakhuisbestuurder by ZZ2.



'n Motorfietsongeluk op die R81 naby Sekgopo het Sondag Nico Peyper se lewe geëis en Karen Sonntag is ernstig beseer in die botsing. Foto: Facebook

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Peyper se begrafnisreëlings was ten tye wat die koerant ter perse gaan nog nie bekend nie, maar dit sal op Letaba Herald se webtuiste bekend gemaak word.

Hy word oorleef deur 'n dogter en twee seuns.

MILLIONS FOR NEW CENTRE

Anwen Mojela

A multi-million Rand commercial development is underway in Tzaneen adjacent to the R71 next to the Sasol garage which will house a McDonalds fast food outlet and a new medical centre.

"A total of nine business stands have been laid out for development of an open space business node for Tzaneen," local businesswoman and developer, Willemien Roettgers told the Herald.

"We are ready to commence with construction of a McDonalds adjacent to Sasol, which will be followed by another drive-through in phase 2 of the development. The erven between Sasol and the river has been sold to a consortium of doctors whom are looking to complete a medical centre within this year still."

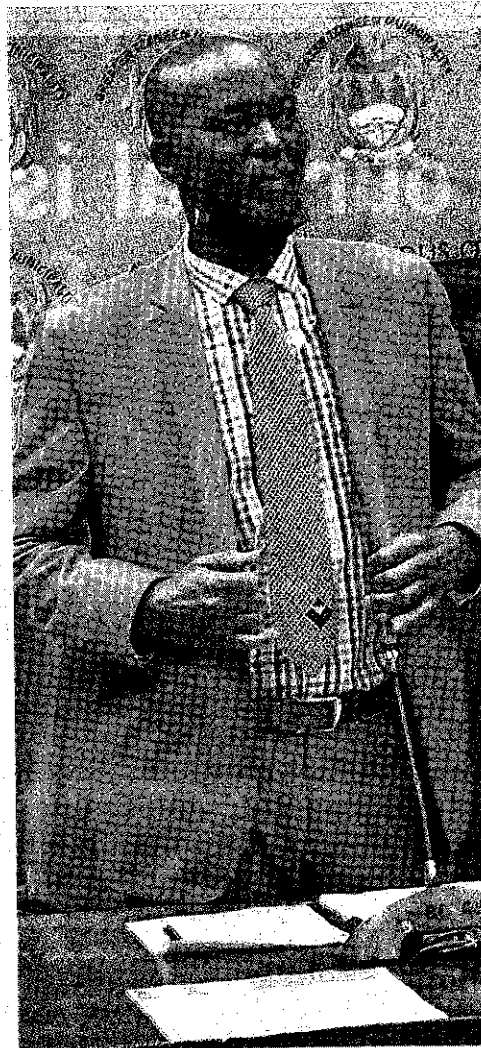
It is anticipated that the McDonalds will be operational by the beginning of August this year and the medical centre at the end of the year.

She said the other erven in the development belong to the developers of Total and KFC which will also be developed in the near future.

A large network of services had to be upgraded to enable the road that will service the development to be built.

"This included securing of the river banks, building a bridge, filling of soil, upgrading of stormwater and then construction of the road," she said.

Greater Tzaneen Municipality (GTM) spokesperson, Neville Ndlala, told the Herald previously that the municipality had an agreement with the developer whereby she applied for the commercial centre



GTM mayor, Geron Molapisane during the media briefing last week. Photo: Anwen

do the construction upgrade of the Bert Booysen (off Boundary Street) Street going towards the R71 road which was completed on June 25.

The total investment for the development totalled to R22 million in 2021, Roettgers said.

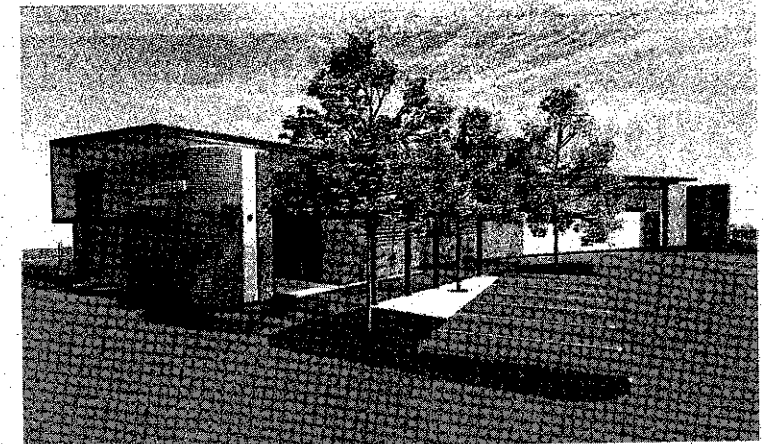
Dr Elias Maowasha, a Tzaneen doctor, confirmed that they will be building a medical centre on the premises. It will be called The Tzaneen Doctor's Centre.

"For now, I can confirm that the medical centre will have a large pharmacy retailer, a diabetic clinic, X-ray facilities, Lancet Laboratories, surgeries for specialists such as an urologist, a psychologist, a dietician and a podiatrist.

"The centre will start operating from December this year and the total investment is estimated at R44 million of which R34 million will go towards the construction." They paid R10 million for the land, he confirmed.

During a GTM media engagement last week Thursday, GTM mayor, Geron Molapisane confirmed the development, saying that it will benefit the municipality and its residents.

"We need to make sure that our streets are clean and safe as no one will want to bring their business to a place where



An architectural impression of the new medical centre in Tzaneen.

their investment cannot be facilitated successfully," said the mayor.

He said he will work unabatedly towards a situation where infrastructure is of such that it will attract developers.

In another meeting, Molapisane recently met with André Thomas of Thomas and Swanepoel to discuss a range of developmental issues in Tzaneen.

Thomas and Swanepoel represent the Resilient Group which owns Tzaneng Mall, Tzaneen Crossing and Tzaneen Lifestyle Centre. The law firm also represent the owners of the new R71 development.

"The two parties agreed to work together in order to unlock opportunities for locals and create to create employment. We are very excited about the coming developments," said the mayor.

It is understood that the Resilient Group is also looking into upgrading their investments in Tzaneen.



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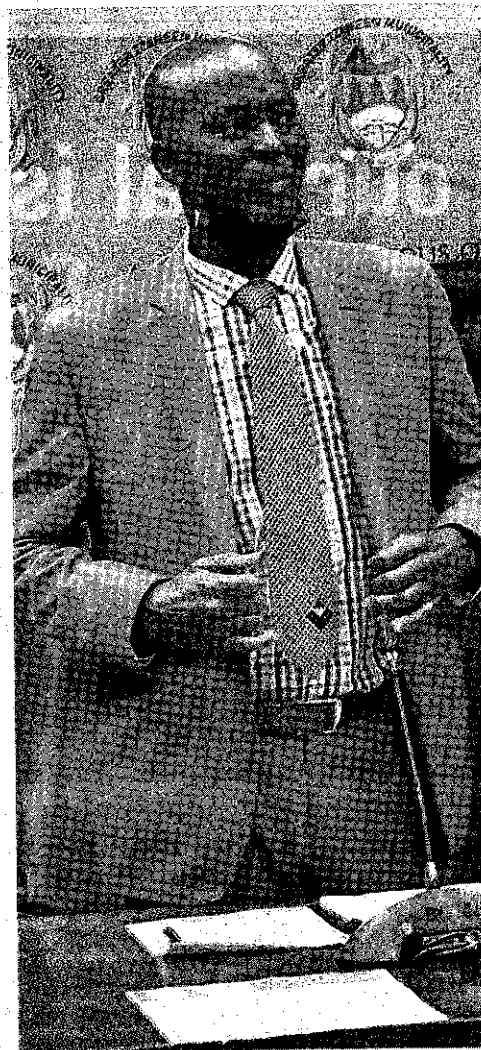
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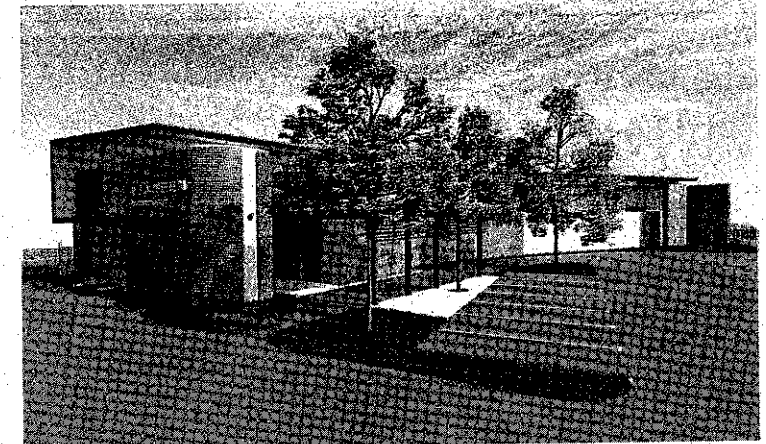
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