President Dr Mokgweesti Masisi (right) welcoming the Governor General of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Dame Cynthia Alexandria Pratt at Sir Seretse Khama International Airport in Gaborone yesterday. The Governor General is on a five-day state visit at the invitation of President Masisi. She is expected to have a tête-à-tête and official talks with the President and also tour the Diamond Trading Company Botswana, Art Gallery at National Museum, Our Lady of the Desert Cathedral Mission and Francistown Senior Secondary School.

Photo: Phenyo Moalosi
Think, do things differently - Tema

By Mothusi Galekhutle

LETHAKENG - Mindset change should form an integral part of every individual’s life in an effort to advance the country’s ambitions of achieving a high income economy.

This was said by Lethakeng district commissioner, Mr Ian Tema at the event organised by the district to mark mindset change one-year anniversary.

Mr Tema said as mindset change was the most powerful tool to drive transformation and growth as it would inevitably help unlock the untapped potential sectors. He explained that embracing mindset change would help people to interrogate the world better and turn challenges into opportunities.

“There are always prospects in the horizons awaiting to be transformed into wealth and mindset change remains key to set things into action. Everything you want to do, put your mind to it and you will do it,” he said.

He encouraged Botswana not to despair but have a positive mindset so that they could come up with ways on how to tackle life and fend for their families and subsequently contribute to the country’s economy. He said capitalising on the value chain of different sectors was more beneficial than replication of the existing businesses.

“Deist from pull down syndrome because you are denying Botswana the potential to grow. The dependency syndrome, especially on government, can delay economic growth,” he said and therefore challenged people to have a spirit of self-reliance.

He said time was nigh for women to believe that they had the responsibility to assume leadership positions.

Assistant district commissioner, Ms Gabona Kalwetse hailed the mindset change campaign for encouraging the community to form groups and come up with initiatives geared towards uplifting their livelihoods.

“This does not only build resilience among community members but also harnesses cooperation and teamwork,” she said.

For her part, district officer-development, Ms Bianca Moswela, challenged selected groups to be committed to their projects and pledged that the district leadership would fully support them. Lethakeng deputy council secretary, Mr Terrence Nialabgw le called on everyone to heed the call ‘let’s change our change’.

Mr Nialagbwe said Botswana should not be conventional in her efforts to be at par with the international community with regards to competitive advantage and development as well as meeting global standards.

He also called on local communities to use abundant resources in the district in a sustainable manner to improve their livelihoods and also implored them to exploit the existing value chain opportunities.

Meanwhile, Tsetseng, Salagwe, Lethakeng Sesung and Kaudane, respectively were the top five villages earmarked to be supported in implementing their businesses. BOPA

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By Gentle Merafe

GABORONE - Gaborone City Council (GCC) and Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen the city’s prosperity.

The MoU will cover initiatives such as smart farming systems, a green city and urban farming systems which are part of the plan to make Gaborone resilient and sustainable.

Speaking during the MoU signing in Gaborone on Friday, BUAN Vice Chancellor Professor Ketlhatlogile Mosepele said according to Statistics Botswana study of 2017, Gaborone was cited as having low prosperity compared to other cities globally.

He said the indicators of low prosperity even though similar to those of other cities around the world included high demand for housing, sewage systems, energy, transportation networks, public works and education, adding that the challenges were to increase in 2026-2036.

The Vice Chancellor said though performing below global standards, the city was rated best in quality of life, equity and social inclusion while environmental sustainability was the worst performing dimension.

Further, he said other weak areas that needed prioritisation were economic agglomeration, social infrastructure, street connectivity, health, economic equity, air quality, sustainable energy and public participation.

As such, he said the MoU was the best possible tool to ameliorating developmental challenges facing the city and further noted that the partnership would give Gaborone access to expertise reposed at BUAN for the benefit of the city.

“BUAN takes pride in fostering innovation and contributing to the well-being of the citizens. Working with GCC will make communities self-dependent in food and nutrition security. When we make Gaborone prosperous, Botswana will benefit,” he said.

He said the MoU would be able to foster engagement and interactions aimed at community empowerment and socio-economic growth.

This, Prof. Mosepele said included inculcating social inclusion and reducing societal disparities and economic inequality. Therefore, he said it was imperative that mitigating measures were urgently put in place to ensure goals set forth to achieve Vision 2036 were attained.

He said it was crucial to use forces to make Gaborone prosperous by anchoring initiatives on sustainable economic development, human and social development, sustainable environment, peace and security.

Prof. Mosepele said at BUAN, sustainability was the basic framework towards addressing current challenges and future urbanisation at local and global scales.

He said the university was deliberating in implementing initiatives aimed at facilitating achievement of SDGs in Botswana.

The City Mayor, Mr Austin Abraham said GCC was optimistic about the outcomes that the partnership could bring.

He said their commitment to improve the outlook of Gaborone required that they have in place a mechanism for investment and global investment hub was anchored on the partnership with BUAN.

He said the institution's location at the entrance of the City made it attractive and spectacular, with its Agrivoltaic solar panels.

He said the 21st century presented challenges and opportunities that could be addressed through research and development.

Mr Abraham said BUAN had exceptional research potential was a force to reckon with for GCC in addressing challenges such as flooding, carbon emissions, and the GCC.

He said collaboration could fully harness opportunities in renewable energy and landscape management.

The Mayor further said through the MoU, projects such as the GCC Agrivoltaic project, the first of its kind in the country, could contribute to the city’s electricity grid.

Thus, he said the signing of the MoU by the two institutions symbolised a partnership which would lead to many new joint initiatives in the years ahead. BOPA

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PRESS RELEASE

GABZ FM STORY IS TARNISHING, UNTRUTH, DECEPTIVE AND UNETHICAL. IT DISTORTS HONOURABLE MINISTER MORWAENG’S STATEMENT

The recent audio clip circulated in various social media platforms by GabzFM reporter, Shingirai Madondo is deceptive and deliberately distorts the statement made by Honourable Minister Kabo Neal Sechele Morwaeng. The Statement was made on April 25, 2024 in Francistown, long before the 2024 primary election which ended on July 27-28, 2024.

The use of the old clip, falsely alluding that the Minister was laughing at his colleagues’ predicament during the recent Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) primary election results, is therefore not only misleading, damaging, and deceptive but also entirely false. This clip was taken out of context from a different event that has no connection to the primary election results that have just concluded.

Such deliberate distortion of facts goes against the core principles and standards of journalism, which are based on integrity, accuracy, and objectivity. By intentionally misrepresenting the Minister’s actions and fabricating a connection to the recent events, GabzFM has violated these basic fundamental journalistic ethics.

This kind of unethical journalism not only undermines the Minister’s reputation but also threatens to erode the good work that the media does in our democracy.

Trust in the media is essential for a well-functioning society, and spreading misinformation in this manner undermines the credibility and reputation of our local media. It is imperative to address such misconduct swiftly and hold those responsible accountable to preserve the integrity of journalism and maintain public trust in the media.
Botswana keen to improve trade relations

By Thato Mosinyi

GABORONE - President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi has advised the recently-appointed Botswana Consular General Designate to South Africa, Mr Vondani Boko, to advocate for improved trade relations between the two countries during his tenure.

Speaking during a courtesy meeting yesterday, President Masisi said it was important to buttress the prominence of building and strengthening strategic trade dimensions given the strong bilateral and historic ties between Botswana and South Africa.

He said there was a lot of trade imbalance between the two countries and urged Mr Boko to strive to close the gap that exists.

“One of the key areas of focus during your tenure in South Africa should be on improving the trade relations between the two countries and to channel resources towards prospective investment sectors that prevails between the two,” President Masisi said.

He said although it was a worldwide conceptual commonplace that products from bigger and more industrialised economies would dominate trade markets of the non-industrialised countries, it was his hope that the monopolistic industrial and commercial dominance would not be reckoned with both regionally and internationally.

The President said there was need to engage South Africa for them to appreciate the importance of levelling the trade playing field and to make them understand the motive behind the vegetable import ban within the SADC framework which allows for protection of infant local industries.

For his part, Mr Boko said he was humbled by the honour to serve Botswana and promised to serve the nation to the best of his abilities.

He also vowed to advance Botswana’s interests and to ensure that the country became a force to be reckoned with both regionally and internationally.

Bopa

Visit to advance economic growth

By Moshe Galeragwe

GABORONE - The state visit by Governor General of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Dame Cynthia Alexandria Pratt, has been hailed as an important milestone in advancing the country’s economic growth and foreign relations.

In an interview in Gaborone yesterday, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Lemogang Kipse, said The Bahamas was ahead in the tourism sector, therefore, the ongoing development aimed at enhancing relations would go a long way in boosting the tourism industry.

The minister was speaking on the occasion of the arrival of the Governor General, who is in Botswana on a five-day state visit.

Dr Kipse noted that annually, the Bahamas received more than nine million tourists.

“As such, The Bahamas is an important partner to learn from in terms of attracting tourists,” he said. Dr Kipse said other than strengthening the existing relations, the state visit provided an opportunity to explore other sectors that were mutually beneficial to help build capacity where the other was lacking.

His counterpart from The Bahamas, Mr Frederick Mitchell, said the visit would among others strengthen people to people ties.

Mr Mitchell said during the official visit by the Prime Minister Mr Philip Davies in March, the delegation visited among others, the Botswana Police College.

“From this development, I foresee the delegation visiting security personnel to Botswana to get exposure and training,” he said.

He concerned with Dr Kipse that The Bahamas was doing well in the tourism sector, therefore was willing to help Botswana to grow and equally benefit more from it.

The Governor General is expected to have a tête-à-tête and official talks with President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi and close her visit with a joint exit press conference.

She will also tour the Diamond Trading Company Botswana Art Gallery at National Museum, Our Lady of the Desert Cathedral Mission and Francistown Senior Secondary School.

Bopa

Oversight agencies converge for international OMBUD Expo

By Thato Mosinyi

GABORONE - Botswana is hosting the second international OMBUD Expo which started yesterday in Gaborone ending Friday.

He said the two countries aimed to do this by participating in bilateral and historic ties between Botswana and South Africa.

He noted that the trade landscape between Botswana and South Africa remained skewed in favour of the latter and that it should improve.

He said Botswana was equally resolute on industrialisation and value additions that improved trade diplomacy would be pivotal towards attaining the country’s industrialisation drive.

“Is it therefore important to focus on Botswana’s economic relations with South Africa since Botswana is more able and resolute in its commitment to industrialise,” he said.

President Masisi said the onus was on Mr Boko to work tirelessly to improve Botswana’s exports to South Africa and the rest of the world.

Briefing the media Thursday, the Ombudsman Adv. Stephen Tsiroyakgos said the Expo would involve exhibition and showcasing of the work of different oversight, regulatory and governance institutions to expose critical performance factors and how they make a difference in governments and organizations.

He concurred with Dr Kwape that the two countries remain skewed in favour of South Africa for them to appreciate the importance of levelling the trade playing field and to make them understand the motive behind the vegetable import ban within the SADC framework which allows for protection of infant local industries.

He said the two countries aimed to do this by participating in bilateral and historic ties between Botswana and South Africa.

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The attending institutions, he said, would be joined by a wide range of service providers, professional bodies, and non-governmental organisations which support and facilitate them.

Building on the exceptional success of the inaugural event and subsequent United Nations General Assembly Resolution 75/186 of December 2020, these institutions will participate in an exhibition and showcasing of their role, operation and performance achievements,” he said.

He said he no other forum, global or regional, provides such a rich assemblage of wide-ranging experiences in one ready location thus cited the expo as a treasure-house of ideas, lessons and best practices.

“It will offer policy makers, practitioners and scholars a rare and unique opportunity to experience at first-hand the array of approaches on offer for tackling ever-pressing challenges of ensuring effective oversight and sustainable performance,” he said.

Adv. Tsiroyakgos said exhibitors and participants would share lessons and experiences with networking with counterparts thereby developing and enriching their operational capabilities.

He added that it was worth noting that Batswana would benefit from hosting the expo not only in the hospitality sector but also through getting first hand access to services and education on the office of the Ombudsman.

“It is pleasing that Batswana seems to appreciate the services and the value additions brought about by the office of the Ombudsman,” he said.

The Governor General is expected to have a tête-à-tête and official talks with President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi and close her visit with a joint exit press conference.

She will also tour the Diamond Trading Company Botswana Art Gallery at National Museum, Our Lady of the Desert Cathedral Mission and Francistown Senior Secondary School.

Bopa
SHAKAWE - Botswana Congress Party (BCP) has promised to tackle unemployment if given a chance to lead by winning the upcoming general election. This was stated by BCP President, Mr Dumelang Saleshando when launching the party’s prospective parliamentary candidate for Okavango West, Mr Kenny Kapinga on Saturday in Shakawe. He said if elected into power, BCP would open about 300 000 job opportunities in a period of five years.

He said the BCP government would ensure that the mining sector does not export raw materials, the move he said would create more jobs in Batswana. Mr Saleshando said job opportunities led to increase in earnings and increased tax payers leading to more development in the country such as roads and increasing old age pension to P1 500.

He implored Okavango West constituents to vote for Mr Kapinga which would also increase his chance as BCP President to be president of Botswana. Mr Saleshando said BCP respected the rights of voters hence its candidates were voted for by the constituents during elections.

He said BCP planned to win 31 constituencies in the coming general election in order to take over government. Another speaker, former Francistown West MP, Mr Vain Mamela said Mr Kapinga was a tried and tested candidate as a current Member of Parliament for the then huge Okavango constituency which stretched from Etsha villages to Gudigwa.

He said Okavango West constituency had challenges of bad roads and others which Mr Kapinga was familiar with. He said BCP has long promised employment creation if given a chance to lead which would lead to economic growth. He said the party also promised children grant of P300 since most families were single female headed families with no proper income.

In his acceptance speech, Mr Kapinga said he would serve the people of Okavango efficiently if given a chance as he had served them after winning the 2019 General Elections in the then Okavango constituency.

He said he has served the country of Botswana from 1983 under different portfolios hence he was capable of leading the people of Okavango West. He said BCP promised a government that would thrive on truth and will also root out corruption. He urged Okavango West constituents to vote for candidates with a legacy who would lead them to freedom.
Lucara mine donates to Makgaba

By Thandy Tebogo

MAKGABA - Lucara Botswana mine has donated five classrooms for lower primary school level valued at P2.4 million to Makgaba. Speaking during a groundbreaking ceremony in Makgaba on Thursday, Lucara Botswana general manager, Mr Johane Mchive said the school would comprise five classrooms being a reception class and standard one to four classes.

The project scheduled for completion in March 2023, he said was a partnership between Lucara Botswana and Debswana, which would fund construction of teachers’ houses.

The nearest primary school in Mokubilo was 12km from Makgaba and the construction of the school will spare students the distance and time that they will have to endure in search of educational services elsewhere.

“The move would also ensure equitable distribution of resources and inclusivity in education. Imagine a situation where children could meet elephants on their way home, should we wait for that to happen, this is what explains the value of this project,” he said.

Mr Mchive said Lucara would never define and be proud of their success if the community within their area of operation were not successful.

He said through collaboration and partnerships, the mine’s investments in sustainable initiatives were aimed at strengthening local communities.

He said the need to meet communities at their point of need was long overdue hence the move to come up with such a project deserved an applause.

Lucara president, Mr William Lamb said the project signified the company’s commitment to empower communities and was also a testament to the transformational power of education.

Mr William stated that at Lucara they believed that their responsibility extended far beyond the boundaries of mining operations. “We monitor our social impacts, and we strive to be active participants in the development of sustainable and inclusive communities in our area of operation, leaving a positive and lasting legacy beyond the lifespan of our mine,” he said.

Mr Lamb said the initiatives were not just corporate allegations but were rooted on the company’s core values and the vision of a sustainable future.

Boteti East Member of Parliament, Mr Sethomo Lelatistswe said the project was a testament to the transformational empowerment in schools and that it was a wake up call for other stakeholders to emulate what Lucara had done.

Debswana funds classroom construction in Mmea

By Thandy Tebogo

MMEA - Debswana has funded the construction of a block comprising two classrooms at Mmea Primary School at a cost of P2.6 million.

Oupa Lethukane and Dambshia Mines general manager, Mr Mogakolodi Maoketsa said at the project’s unveiling ceremony in Mmea on Friday that the project would be constructed through proceeds of the 2022 and 2023 Debswana’s annual and its charity.

He noted that the construction of classrooms was part of efforts by the government to facilitate educational enrichment through creating a conducive environment for learners.

The project, he said was a demonstration of the company’s commitment to the promotion of academic excellence in schools as espoused not only in Debswana Botswana but also in the country’s Vision 2036.

He expressed gratitude towards Komatsu, which was the main sponsor in the 2023 GM’s walk, noting that their sponsorship enabled the company to deliver the Mmea project.

For his part, Boteti District Deputy Council Secretary, Mr Raiphas Seshoka said the donation was an augmentation to government’s efforts to provide services and developments closer to the people.

He said what the general manager had done was in line with the Presidential priorities and national development plans.

Mr Seshoka said education was a key priority to government as evidenced by the budget allocation in which the ministry of education had the largest share.

Debswana, he said was driving two of the government priorities; which were infrastructure development and private sector-led economic growth.

He said it was therefore befitting to thank Debswana and Komatsu for supporting government as Mmea Primary School had been facing a shortage of three classrooms.

Mr Seshoka noted that delivery of the project was a relief, as Boteti District Council would concentrate on other areas of need.

He promised to provide all the necessary support to ensure that the project would be completed within budget and on time.

BOPA

Mr Lematšiswe (third left) appreciating Mr Mchive (third right) during the groundbreaking ceremony of a school donated by Lucara in Makgaba recently. Mr Mchive said the school, which would have five lower primary classrooms, is expected to cost P2.4 million. Photo: Thandy Tebogo

Triple murder victims laid to rest

By Kgotsafalang Botsang

SELEBI PHIKWE - Multitudes gathered at the Botshelo family homestead in Tamasane to pay their last respects to Botshelo brothers, Suarez, Abdula, and Requama.

The tragic loss of the trio, aged 13, 10, and 8, who were pupils at Tati Siding Primary School, has shaken the nation.

Their father, 40-year-old Botshelo France, accused of ending their lives, awaits his next court appearance after being remanded in custody following a hearing in the Francistown Magistrate Court recently.

S p e a k i n g a t f u n e r a l s e r v i c e , A s s i s t a n t M i n i s t e r o f L o c a l G o v e r n m e n t a n d R u r a l D e v e l o p m e n t , M r S e t l h a b e l o M d u k a n c a l e , c a l l e d f o r u n i t y i n e n d i n g v i o l e n c e a g a i n s t w o m e n a n d c h i l d r e n .

He emphasised the need for education and empowerment to recognise and prevent abuse, providing support and rehabilitation for victims.

“I want to call upon every citizen, every community leader and every sector of our society to unite in a resolute effort to prevent and end all forms of violence against women and children,” said Mr Modukanele.

He condemned the violence that continued to be perpetrated against women and children, challenging the nation to unite and put an end to heinous crimes.

Mr Charity Enock, the School Head at Tati Siding Primary, expressed the impact of the children’s passing on the school community, praising the support received from government departments and institutions during this difficult time.

She said the boys made school very enjoyable particularly during school events because they were passionate about dancing.

Ms Enock also thanked various government departments and institutions for the support they gave her school during this difficult time, adding “they gave us hope in a hopeless world.”

Representing the Children’s Consultative Forum, learner Seabelo Mmusi urged parents to cherish and safeguard their children, condemning the tragic loss and advocating for collaboration to protect the youth of the nation.

“If you take our lives, who is going to protect us?” he asked.

He also condemned the killing of innocent children urging parents and all the stakeholders to work together to protect children in this country.

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Your story matters
De Beers makes strides amid challenges

By Lorato Gaofise

GABORONE - Following a challenging year 2023 in the diamond trading market, De Beers experienced some improvement at the beginning of 2024, but momentum slowed down in the second quarter due to ongoing macroeconomic challenges.

Presenting De Beers 2024 Interim Financial Results recently, the company’s Diamond Trading Executive Vice President Mr Paul Rowley said despite the challenges experienced during the first half of the year, the company had made great progress in its new origins strategy, which aims at boosting natural value across business spectrum.

“The VDC aims to diversify revenue streams amid challenges in the near term with the recovery in rough diamond demand expected to be gradual,” he said.

However, he expressed delight that De Beers’ new origins strategy would enhance value across business spectrum, from mining to retail and revitalise desire for rough diamonds among a new generation of consumers.

Beyond financial performance, De Beers showcased its commitment to community support through corporate affairs initiatives.

The Vice President for Corporate Affairs, Ms Otisile Maboe, emphasised the importance of entrepreneurship in driving sustainable economic growth. De Beers’ efforts to support entrepreneurs, particularly through the Stanford Seed Transformation Programme, which provided essential business training and resources to entrepreneurs in Africa and South Asia.

Through strategic partnerships and targeted interventions, De Beers aims to catalyse job creation, fuel economic growth, and empower a new wave of entrepreneurs in the producer countries.

Mr Rowley presenting De Beers half year results in Gaborone recently. He said challenging trading conditions for diamonds had persisted in the first half of 2024 due to sluggish post pandemic recovery in places like China which had impacted demand for all luxury goods. Photo: Tshoganetso Mokowe

Masisi purchases high quality livestock from young farmer

By Krones Majoto

GHANZI - At this year’s installment of the Ghanzi show, President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi demonstrated confidence in the exceptional quality of animals produced by Mr Toy Kajtova by purchasing small-stock from the 27-year-old farmer.

He urged farmers to play their part in protecting the sector by adopting and implementing good livestock management practices, and explained that government had, in response to the impending challenge, rolled out a number of household food security relief measures to cushion households and farmers against the effects of the drought.

“These interventions include among others, the provision of subsidised animal feeds for all livestock species, borehole maintenance as well as provision of vaccines,” he said.

In a bid to expand the reach and effectiveness of its programmes, De Beers has collaborated with various institutions in Botswana to identify and support promising entrepreneurs.

Notable achievements include a surge in programme applicants, with a significant representation of female entrepreneurs contributing to job creation and economic sustainability across producer countries.

As De Beers continues to pioneer initiatives supporting entrepreneurship and economic development, its commitment to driving growth within the private sector remains unwavering.

Mr Rowley presenting De Beers half year results in Gaborone recently. He said challenging trading conditions for diamonds had persisted in the first half of 2024 due to sluggish post pandemic recovery in places like China which had impacted demand for all luxury goods. Photo: Tshoganetso Mokowe

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - Bothagolo Village Development Committee (VDC) is currently making efforts to diversify revenue sources through multiple sources of revenue to support the implementation of development programmes within the village.

Mr Makgobo Kommerese, the VDC chairperson, revealed in an interview that the committee has taken steps towards expanding and diversifying its income streams.

Initially reliant on revenue from house rentals, Mr Kommerese reported that efforts are being made to diversify the generated income streams to prevent the committee from depending on a single source of revenue.

Mr Kommerese emphasised the importance of maintaining a stable revenue base to support village development initiatives and empower local communities.

In addition to the vegetable gardening project that the VDC is exploring other ventures, including operating a quarry to extract sand, gravel, and concrete that could be sold to construction entities.

He said plans also included a brick making project aimed at creating job opportunities and fostering community prosperity.

Despite their proactive approach to revenue generation, Mr Kommerese highlighted the challenges faced by the village in accessing the Constituency Community Programme (CCP).

This programme, designed to facilitate grassroots projects and stimulate the local economy, has yet to benefit Bothagolo. The VDC had proposed a butchery under the CCP, which remains inoperational due to funding limitations.

While acknowledging efforts are being made to diversify income streams under the CCP, Mr Kommerese underscored the importance of realising community-driven development projects.

The VDC remains hopeful that their initiatives will come to fruition, ultimately improving the quality of life for residents and fostering sustainable economic growth within the village, he said.

Meanwhile, in a council meeting, senior economic planner, Ms Fidelis Molao advised livestock farming in the village.

She wiped out by famine.

He urged farmers to play their part in protecting the sector by adopting and implementing good livestock management practices, and explained that government had, in response to the impending challenge, rolled out a number of household food security relief measures to cushion households and farmers against the effects of the drought.

These interventions include among others, the provision of subsidised animal feeds for all livestock species, borehole maintenance as well as provision of vaccines,” he said.

In the same breath, Dr Masisi cautioned businesses supplying the commodities covered by the government drought mitigation measures to desist from unethical and unfair business practices of escalating prices exponentially.

Minister of Agriculture Mr Fidelis Molao advised livestock farmers to consider disposing off some of their animals to raise capital with which they would use to care for remaining ones during the drought period.

Such a move he said, would up farmers’ chance of surviving the drought as it would help them protect their herds from being wiped out by famine.

Ghanzi show committee chairperson Mr Thuso Mackenzie said in an interview that the drought would affect farmers in different ways.

He said while most farmers who participated in the show were commercial farmers with the capacity to feed their herds, total lack of natural pastures would compel them to spend more on feed than they would ordinarily do.

Mr Mackenzie said it would not be surprising to record a decline in the quality of animals brought in next exhibition’s year edition of the Ghanzi show. BOPA

By Keonee Majoto

Mr Mackenzie said it would not be surprising to record a decline in the quality of animals brought in next exhibition’s year edition of the Ghanzi show. BOPA

BOPA
## PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE

The South Region - Lusaka will be conducting an auction sale on 8 August 2024. **View date:** 7 August 2024

**Terms and Conditions of sale:**
- The auction sale will be open to (business) Citizens and wholly citizen owned companies.
- There will be no viewing of items on the auction date.
- Prospective bidders will be expected to bring to the sale the following:
  - Valid copy of identity (or business) company certificate.
- **Contact details:**
- Goods will be offered to the highest bidder, after payment of the bid price within 24hrs from the time the offer is amendment to the winner.
- Goods will be sold with Reserve Prices and only bids equaling or above the Reserve Prices will be considered.
- The highest bidder will be required to pay within 24hrs and collect the goods within 2 days, failing which the goods will attract a daily warehouse rent at the prescribed rates.
- **BURS employees are NOT ALLOWED to participate in the auction.**
- Goods are sold "as is" without any form of warranty or guarantee herein attached.

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**FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:**

Mr. Gobile Muyembeza  | Work: 5317658  | Cell: 7793832/7495863  
Mrs. O.I. Thupelo  | Work: 5317814  | Cell: 7798160
WATER UTILITIES CORPORATION DONATES AN ABLUTION FACILITY TO GHANZI COMMUNITY

A WEEK AHEAD OF THE 50TH CELEBRATION OF THE OF GHANZI SHOW, WATER UTILITIES CORPORATION DONATED AN ABLUTION BLOCK COMPRISING TWO TOILETS AND A SHOWER PER GENDER TO THE SHOW COMMITTEE.

The event was graced by Kgosi Annah Rankho of Ghanzi Township, Council Chairperson, Honourable Jeremiah Tibi, District Commissioner Mr Ketumile Walter Ramotadima, Hon Councillors from various wards, Chairperson of Ghanzi Show, Mr Thuso Mackenzie, WUC CEO Mr Gaselemogwe Senai, Director Strategy and Corporate Affairs, Mr Peter Sedingwe, Acting Head of Business Centre, Mr Omphemetse Kealeboga, Heads of Government and Parastatal organization, media members and the community.

Kgosi Annah Rankho was happy to host the delegation and residents who attended the occasion, applauding WUC for the permanent and branded ablation structure which brings...
new development and a new look to the Ghanzi Show. Kgosi Rankho also acknowledged other development that WUC and the Government of Botswana are bringing to the township such as the Kgalagadi North Water Supply Project which includes Ncojane and Ghanzi areas.

When handing over the facility, WUC Chief Executive Officer, Mr Gaselemogwe Senai said the P150,000.00 worth ablution facility, will help the Commitee raise funds especially during the show. Mr Senai said they have been growing the township and the region for a while now, having constructed a cattle crush, small stock exhibition kraals loading ramp which was also recently expanded in Charles Hill, three bus shelters and solar panels to Ghanzi-Mamuno-Charleshill Junction and further donated 80 chairs, 20 tables and 6 branded dustbins to Karakubis Primary school.

WUC CEO highlighted that the message in the ablution block, SOMARELA THOTHI comes at a perfect time when The President of the Republic of Botswana, His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi has declared the year 2023/2024 a drought year, further encouraging every water user to adopt save water conservation habits. Mr Senai encouraged the Ghanzi Show Committee and residents to take care of the facility and other community projects to benefit generations, by condemning any form of vandalism.

Ghanzi Show Chairperson, Mr Thuso Mackenzie expressed gratitude towards Water Utilities Corporation. He highlighted that WUC has supported the growth of Show over the past three years adding that the Show has improved and now attracts many exhibitors, even from outside the country. He said the branded ablution block will enhance the economy of the show and encourage other organisation to contribute towards the growth of the largest show in Botswana.

Ghanzi Council Chairperson, Honourable Jeremiah Tibi appreciated the series of projects by WUC in the area saying that the works are transforming lives. Hon. Tibi said to give is a blessing and urged WUC to continue supporting other less privileged areas. He assured WUC that the ablution facility will be taken care of and raise funds for the Show. Hon. Tibi further encouraged the people of Ghanzi to adhere to Somarela Thothi and other messages and use the digital platforms to access water services as these are part of Government initiatives.
Ngwao e ngakoga palanja

Ka Tshiamo Soetlela

MAHALAPYE — Go supa le go somarela letolitse na ngwao go ka ngaka bapalane le go fethla meberekgo go lefelo. Kga jalo motse wa Mahalapye o o humleng dingwao ka go farologaneng tsa mefe re e e akaretesheng Bangwato, Baberero, Bashona, Barotsi, Bakalaka, Batalaote, Makhosa le Botswaŋa, ba ba nang le dingwao, diteme, mepaapane le dijo tse di farenlogangular e e lefelo, se le re tsa farologaneng go dirisa seo go thitsha.

Motheo mokwadile (DPS) mo lehlaeneng go bophutha le 10,000 re mola legoare o mafelo go gare ka nang le fethla go dirisa gape go farologaneng go kgakopa dilo. Tse di farologaneng e ka dirisa seo dingwao, diteme, meaparo le dijo le Batswapong, ba ba nang le go farologana tsa merafe o o humile dingwao ka go bala ka jalo motse wa Mahalapye melelang go fethla go fethla. Kga jalo motse wa Mahalapye go farologaneng e ka mafelo le kgakopa, mo lefelo go k notify tsa merafe bone. Le tsetanka tla ka beleyego go bereka ka tlaa dirisa tsha merafe bone e le tsetenana le go dithogo go fethla.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR TWO PRIVATE VALUATION SURVEYORS TO SERVE ON THE HUKUNTSI DISTRICT COUNCIL VALUATION TRIBUNAL

Hukuntsi District Council wishes to invite Botswana citizen Private Valuation Surveyors to express their interest to serve on its Valuation Tribunal. Kindly note that preference will be given to qualifying candidates residing in Hukuntsi District.

The Valuation Tribunal is established as per the provisions of the Local Government Act of 2012 under Section 40, which states “Every Council shall appoint one or more valuation officers approved by the Minister to make any valuation rolls provided for in this part. Section 41 states that “The Minister may by order establish a Valuation Tribunal for the purposes of this part. Further Local Government (Valuation and Rating) Regulations, 2019, Regulation 4 provides for the appointment of Valuation Officers where Regulation 15 makes the provision for the establishment of Valuation Tribunal.

Requirements for Interested individuals:
1. A certified valid copy of identity card document.
2. Personal profile (Curriculum Vitae) indicating their qualifications and work experience.
3. Certified copies of educational qualification certificates.
4. A duly completed Police Affidavit indicating place of residence within Hukuntsi District jurisdiction.
5. Proof of registration with the Real Estate Advisory Council, Real Estate Institute of Botswana (REIB) and Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) as a Property valuer.

All applications from serving public officers should be routed through their Heads of Departments in Chief Executive Officers; applications not so routed will not be considered.

Submissions must be made at Hukuntsi Rural Administration Centre, Records Management Unit, Block B, 1st floor, Office No. B 109, weekdays during the working hours (0730-1245, 1345-1630). The document should be marked “EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PRIVATE VALUATION SURVEYOR FOR THE VALUATION TRIBUNAL”.

Submissions must be on the dates from the 05th August 2024 to the 16th August 2024.

Please contact the below contact person(s) for any clarification on this expression of interest.
Mr. L. H. Moletsi and Mr. B. Botsepola Tel: 65120286, extension 74321

Baraedi Sento
FCS/Council Secretary

A Model of Excellence in Local Governance for Sustainable Livelihood
URGENTLY REQUIRED THE services of 2 farm workers at Arab Abdul Satter. P.O Box 999 Gabrone
FARM WORKER WANTED, energetic, good natured, age 21-35 years at Fishiboro farm. Boro - Maun
call 72 150 130/ 73 300 029
FARM WORKERS for Temo Letitolo, needed @ Chabuchaba farm, Kweneng. Call 72 224 558
FARM WORKERS and seasonal farm workers wanted at Pheorge Bastotli. 71 561 831.
FARM WORKER WANTED at Legaragathana farm Mookane village. Call 72 850 387 / 75 523 714
FARM WORKER WANTED at Maphanyane ward Serowe. Call 74300747

NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETING
Administration of Estate Act (Cap:3101)

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap:3101), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the
above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix
Order as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their
deceased relative.

NAME OF THE DECEASED PERSON: REMERENG LEKANG
DATE OF DEATH: 19/06/2024
DATE: 10/07/24
TIME: 11:00

MISTERS: WORDING
DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 11TH DAY OF JULY 2024

APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST TITLE DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned are applying for certified copy of Deed
No: L07/GAB/2731, dated the 10th day of June 2017 in favour of THLELELIO EDWIN MAKHERWA
in respect of:
CERTAIN: Piece of land being Lot 7690, Jwaneng
SITUATE: in Gaborone West Extension No 12
MEASURING: 437m2 (Four Hundred and Thirty Seven Square Metres),
ALL PERSONS having objection to the issue of such copy hereby required to lodge the
same in writing with the undersigned within 30 days of the last publication of this notice.
DATED at Gabrone this 18th day of July 2024
Mathau Attorneys
P O Box 2657, Gaborone OR
parthpadancemovement@gmail.com

APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned are applying for a certified copy of Deed
Deed No: L07/GAB/2731, dated the 10th day of June 2017 in favour of Modisaotsile Moneedi Gaobolae
in respect of:
CERTAIN: Piece of land being Lot 7690, Jwaneng
SITUATE: in Gaborone West Extension No 12
MEASURING: 437m2 (Four Hundred and Thirty Seven Square Metres),
ALL PERSONS having objection to the issue of such copy hereby required to lodge the
same in writing with the undersigned within 30 days of the last publication of this notice.
DATED at Gabrone this 18th day of July 2024
Mathau Attorneys
P O Box 2657, Gaborone OR
parthpadancemovement@gmail.com

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

APPLICANT: DEBORAH WORKU WOLDEGIORGIS
IN THE ESTATE OF the Late DEBORAH WORKU WOLDEGIORGIS who died at Sir Ketumile Masire Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 28th day of April 2024.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and Creditors in the above estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file
claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within three (3) weeks from the last publication of this notice.
DATED AT GABRONE ON THIS 19TH DAY OF July 2024
APPLICANT: DEBORAH WORKU WOLDEGIORGIS
PO Box 2657, Gaborone OR
parthpadancemovement@gmail.com

NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETING
Administration of Estate Act (Cap:3101)

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap:3101), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the
above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix
Order as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their
deceased relative.

NAME OF THE DECEASED PERSON: REMERENG LEKANG
DATE OF DEATH: 19/06/2024
DATE: 10/07/24
TIME: 11:00

MISTERS: WORDING
DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 11TH DAY OF JULY 2024

APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST TITLE DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned are applying for certified copy of Deed
No: L07/GAB/2731, dated the 10th day of June 2017 in favour of THLELELIO EDWIN MAKHERWA
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DATED at _______ on this ______ Day of ______ 2024
APPLICANT: MODISAOTSILE MONEEDI GAOBOLAE

P resetting

Our NEWfacebook page
Name & Look

A re chencheng! A he het joge! Ati shanduleni! #Bw mindset change
Neighbour Consultation

Owner of Plot 9557: Tlokweng residents who wish to change land use from single family residential to multi residential. Anyone with objections is hereby invited to contact Ghanzi District Council, Physical Planning Office on Tel: 3695002 for objections to the proposal can be made within 14 days of this publication.

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Okavango District Council hosts mini show

By Kelebogile Pelentsile

GUMARE - Okavango District Council (ODC) held a mini show in Gumare on Friday showcasing artefacts made by SMME entrepreneurs, poverty eradication and other economic empowerment programme beneficiaries in the area.

In interview, Principal Home Economics Officer II Favourite Phumusa said the mini show was a chance for market beneficiaries’ products which included basketry, wood work and products which included to market beneficiaries’ economic empowerment eradication and other economic empowerment programme beneficiaries in the area.

MS Phumusa said the two-day mini show would see judging the artefacts to select the best three which would win prizes.

The mini shows, she said were the first level of competitions held across the country on different dates and the winners would proceed to the cluster fairs which were a competition between districts hence the ODC winners would compete with winners from North West, Chobe and Ghanzi districts.

The ceremony, combined with the choir’s concert, was graced by various clap and tap choirs including a guest choir, Maun Choir.

Prophet Elias commended the choir during a ceremony to celebrate its victory at Sedie Junior Secondary School hall over the weekend.

The ceremony, which competed under the newly introduced Clap and Tap category won the regional competition to book a spot at the national stage where it walked away with P38 000 prize money.

Prophet Elias thanked the choirs for demonstrating unity and supporting each other. "I have been supporting clap and tap concerts since 2018 and I am impressed that the choirs consistently mesmerised audience, showcasing their dedication to the craft and their ability to evoke emotion and I am impressed that the choirs consistently mesmerised audience, showcasing their dedication to the craft and their ability to evoke emotion throughout their musical performances," he added.

North West Deputy District Commissioner, Ramogaupi Gaborokwe also commended Salvation choir for the big achievement. "I have been supporting clap and tap concerts since 2018 and I am impressed that the choirs consistently mesmerised audience, showcasing their dedication to the craft and their ability to evoke emotion throughout their musical performances," he added.

Commissioner, Ramogaupi Gaborokwe also commended Salvation choir for making the choir's concert, was graced by various clap and tap choirs for demonstrating unity and supporting each other. "I have been supporting clap and tap concerts since 2018 and I am impressed that the choirs consistently mesmerised audience, showcasing their dedication to the craft and their ability to evoke emotion throughout their musical performances," he added.

While he appreciated that local choirs provided an opportunity for young people to learn and develop their musical talent, he also acknowledged that through the music concert, funds were raised for development projects in their respective churches.

Prophet Elias thanked the choirs for demonstrating unity and supporting each other. "I have been supporting clap and tap concerts since 2018 and I am impressed that the choirs consistently mesmerised audience, showcasing their dedication to the craft and their ability to evoke emotion throughout their musical performances," he added.

While he appreciated that local choirs provided an opportunity for young people to learn and develop their musical talent, he also acknowledged that through the music concert, funds were raised for development projects in their respective churches.

He said the choir had been playing an instrumental role in generating money for development projects within the church. Currently, he said they were undertaking a P1.5 million project of a construction of the church building which he said had been pending for six years. The choir, he said started raising funds through concerts but was disrupted by COVID-19 pandemic.

“We are proud to announce that there is a lot of progress as the project is now at roofing level and we believe that before the end of the year, we will be able to complete roofing. I thank all stakeholders and other clap and tap choirs for their invaluable support towards the project,” he added.
Padel tennis shows growth in Botswana

By Bakang Wren

GABORONE – Avani Hotel and Resorts, through its Avani Fit programme, has teamed up with 10 by 20 Padel Club to introduce and promote padel tennis in the country.

Speaking in an interview during the open day of the padel tennis at the Avani court on Saturday, one of the pioneers at the 10 by 20 Paddle Club, Tefo Modie, said Botswana had embraced the sport, which was a blend of tennis and squash, with open arms.

“Padel is a mixture of tennis and squash. You have glass walls on each end, mesh on the sides, and the gameplay combines the best elements of both sports,” he said.

He added that the sport was quickly gaining traction, due to efforts by local enthusiasts and collaborations with major partners such as the Avani Hotel and Resorts.

Initially, he said they launched it as a passion project.

However, he said the response to the sport exceeded all their expectations.

“We opened our first site at The Fields Mall, and the reaction was phenomenal. People love coming here to play and enjoy the environment,” Modie said.

Currently, he added that Botswana boasts of two paddle courts one at The Fields Mall and another at the Avani Hotel and Resorts.

“We opened last year, and we are about to reach our one-year anniversary,” he said.

He said paddle tennis, which originated from Argentina, was a fast growing sport in the world and did not want Botswana to be left behind.

Already, he said they have had tournaments, which offered trips to Cape Town and cash rewards on a monthly basis as incentives for the winners.

Their next tournament would be on August 9-10. He said they have had a tournament in South Africa called the Bot vs SA tournament. They took about 30 teams from here to South Africa.

“There were women’s and men’s tournaments. It’s an increasing sport. It’s not just men. We have a very strong demographic of women playing this sport as well, plenty of women of all ages as well,” he said.

Modie said their plans were to expand the sport beyond Gaborone.

“We are exploring opportunities to open more sites across Botswana. The interest is there, and we believe in padel’s potential to thrive nationwide,” Modie said.

Also, he said they were planning a benchmarking mission to South Africa where the sport was flourishing.

He further said the club aimed to create a family-friendly atmosphere, as the sport’s inclusivity was evident with participants ranging from young age to adults in their late 50s and 60s.

One of the unique aspects of 10 by 20 Padel Club, he said was their seamless booking process for those who wanted to join the club.

“We have developed an app for easy online booking and payment. For first-timers, we provide rackets and balls for free. Our goal is to make padel accessible and enjoyable for everyone,” he said.

Modie highlighted.

He said padel was set to become a staple in the Botswana’s sports landscape with its health benefits and engaging nature, more so that Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) such as sugar diabetes, high blood pressure and others were a concern in Botswana.

“We have a lot of people who are actually taking it purely for the health benefit. I really, really appreciate that and I really encourage everyone, even if you get it once a week, you will feel good at first,” he said.

Modie encouraged everyone to give it a try.

“Even if you play once a week, you’ll feel the difference. It’s a fun, active sport that everybody can enjoy,” he said.

Modie said they really appreciated that and really encouraged the public to come and enjoy the difference. It’s a fun, active sport that everyone can enjoy.

By Thamani Shabani

FRANCISTOWN - Twenty-four sport administrators were awarded diplomas in Advanced Sports Management in the Management of Olympics Sports Organisation.

Speaking during a Botswana National Olympic Committee (BNOC) graduation ceremony in Francistown recently, Francistown District Commissioner, Chabongwa Matseka encouraged the graduates to be ambassadors of mind-set change.

“Whatever in your careers, community, or personal lives, strive to make a positive impact. The measure of your success will not only be in your achievements, but also in the differences you make in the lives of others, be ambassadors of mind-set change initiative,” said Matseka.

BNOC programme director, Moses Monnus said the objective of the course was to empower sports administrators with more skills to aid them execute their job without difficulties.

He said the course offered treasure of advantages, designed to hone skills of budding sports managers.

In his vote of thanks, chairperson of Nico United and former Botswana Primary School Sports Association, who was also a graduate, Busani Sigweni said skills acquired would be put to good use.

Another graduate, Mariam Mashaba said the course was a true game changer.

“The depth and breadth of knowledge we gained, coupled with the practicals of this knowledge, will serve us well in our future endeavours. My gratitude to our organisers, especially BNOC, will forge a pathway to excellence in sports management,” she said.

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Egner in action today

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Botswana swimmer, Maxine Egner will be in action today, competing in the 100m freestyle at the ongoing Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Egner, who was Botswana’s flag bearer during the Olympics official opening ceremony, is one of the local swimmers, who had good qualities of getting off the block faster, with good underwater dolphin kicks.

She has also proved to be a brave swimmer, who is not easily intimidated by opponents' popularity. Egner is the current 100m Freestyle National Record holder, which she did in 2021 during the FINA Swimming World Cup 2021.

She said in an interview that she was excited and ready to do her best at the competition adding that she hoped to clock her Personal Best time.

She said over the weeks, she followed a structured schedule prepared by her coach.

“I have been working closely with my coach to get the best out of me both in the water and outside the water at the gym,” she said.

Furthermore, she said the sessions had helped her and her expectations were that she would execute what she had been doing during training.

Swimming coach, Sidingulwazi Sibanda said they had been preparing well for the Olympics adding that Egner looked forward to the competition.

He said there was prospect of advancing to the semi-final, if she was to stick to their plan of dive, race pace and turn. BOPA