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M5.00

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THURSDAY October 1-7, 2020

Tel.: 266 2232 5494

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NO LRA WITHOUT BUSINESSES - KHASIPE

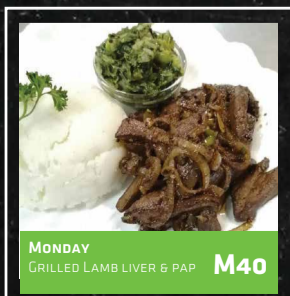
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WiseWORDS: Successful entrepreneurs are givers and not takers of positive energy. ~Anonymous.



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On This Day in History

1918
Lawrence of Arabia captures Damascus



A combined Arab and British force captures Damascus from the Turks during World War I, completing the liberation of Arabia. An instrumental commander in the Allied campaign was T.E. Lawrence, a legendary British soldier known as Lawrence of Arabia. Lawrence, an Oxford-educated Arabist born in Tremadoc, Wales, began working for the British army as an intelligence officer in Egypt in 1914. He spent more than a year in Cairo, processing intelligence information. In 1916, he accompanied a British diplomat to Arabia, where Hussein ibn Ali, the emir of Mecca, had proclaimed a revolt against Turkish rule. Lawrence convinced his superiors to aid Hussein's rebellion, and he was sent to join the Arabian army of Hussein's son Faisal as a liaison officer.

Directory

- Child Helpline: 80022345
- Crime Hotline: 22313337
- WASCO: 22262000
- LEC: 52100000
- Police Station: 22317262
- Airport: 22350777
- MRTD: 2232 5494
- Ombudsman: 22316425
- Metro News Tips: 2232 5494
- Border Control: 22325740

Essentials

- Registration Fees**
- Motor cycle solo with engine of cylinder in capacity not exceeding 350 cc will cost M100
 - Motor cycle solo with engine of cylinder in excess of 350 cc - M150
- Motor Vehicle License Fees**
- Motor Vehicle License Fees motor cycle with engine capacity not exceeding 350 cc - M100
 - Other motor vehicles for the first vehicle - M1 000
 - For every additional vehicle other than a motor cycle - M500
- Motor vehicle, trailers and construction equipment clearance fees:**
- 0 - 750 kg: M150.00
 - 11.500kg and more: M1 600
- Examination fees for roadworthy certificates:**
- Motor cycle not exceeding 350 cc - M200
 - Other motor cycle, tractor or trailer - M200
 - Light motor vehicle - M220
 - Heavy commercial vehicles - M300
 - Vehicle examiner's prohibition for vehicle's Un-roadworthiness - M350
- Certificates of fitness for passenger vehicle:**
- Motor cars, 4+1, and driving - M200
 - Commercial passenger's vehicles, if carrying capacity does not exceed 22 passengers - M250
 - If carrying capacity exceeds 22 but less than 60 passengers - M300
 - If carrying capacity exceeds 60 passengers - M350
- Certificate of fitness for goods vehicles:**
- Where tare weight does not exceed 3,500kg - M100
 - Where tare weight exceeds 3,500kg but does not exceed 11,000kg - M150
 - Combination of vehicles - M150
 - Trailers if tare weight does not exceed 5,000kg - M100
 - If tare weight exceed 5,000kg - M150
- Documents:**
- Certificate of road worthiness and fitness - M100, other motor vehicles licenses - M100
 - Motor cycle not exceeding 350cc - M50
 - Other motor vehicle licenses - M100
- Application fees:**
- Learners license - M50
 - Theory test - M50
 - Driving test and re-test - M50
 - Public driving instructor's test - M100
 - Driving school permit - M150
- Issuance of driver's license:**
- Light duty - M200
 - Heavy duty - M250
 - Extra-heavy duty - M400
 - Driving instructor's certificate - M300
 - Public driving permit - M200
- Renewals of driver's licences:**
- Motor cycle not exceeding 350cc - M120
 - Learner's license - M50
 - Light duty - M200
 - Heavy duty - M250
 - Extra heavy duty - M400
 - Driving instructor's certificate - M300
 - Public driving permit - M200
 - Driving school permit - M420
- Special Permit:**
- Initial issuance - M200
 - Renewal - M400
 - Supply of information from the records - M100
 - Duplicate of document - M300
 - Transfer of registration number (section I2(2) of the act) - M150
 - Transfer of ownership - M100
 - Set of number plates - M400

No LRA without businesses - Khasipe

NEO SENOKO
business@maserumetro.com

MASERU - The plummeting domestic and regional economic conditions due to the COVID-19 pandemic is killing the principal drive of the Lesotho Revenue Authority (LRA) which is to collect tax revenue.

The LRA was established by Act of Parliament in 2001 and became operational in 2003, principally responsible for assessment, collection and remittance of public revenues to the government.

The authority seeks to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of revenue collection and provide an improved service to the public.

Such efforts are, however, being killed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the past financial year, LRA missed its annual revenue target for the first time since 2018, a condition which was largely blamed on the economic meltdown that swayed the 2019/20 financial year and the outbreak of the coronavirus disease.

Corporate Income Tax collections were at their lowest and employment also stagnated in the same financial year.

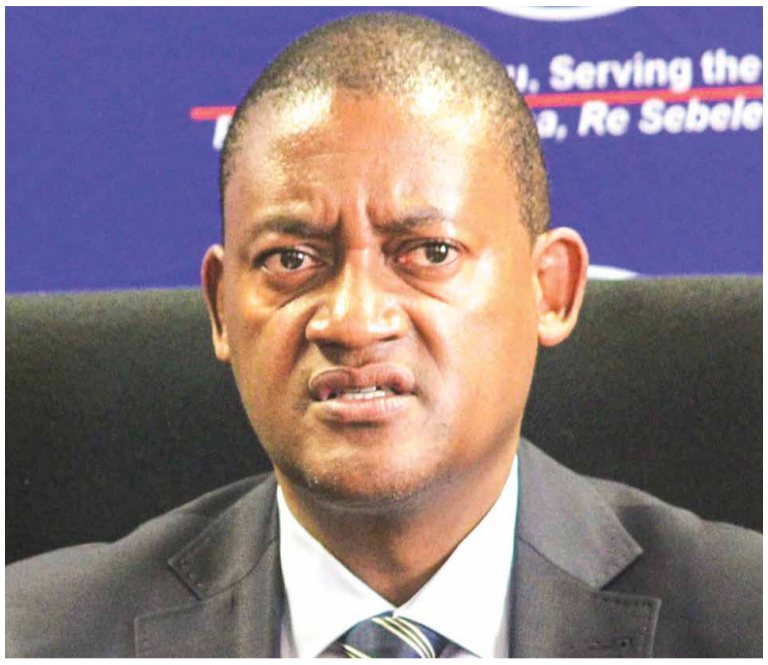
Against the target of M7 554 billion, the revenue authority only managed to remit M6 962 billion. The net collections reflected a deficit of M591.85 million (-7.8 per cent).

By gross amounts, LRA collected M7 864 billion, representing M162 million (2.1 percent growth) from the M7 702 billion collected in 2018/19 financial year.

With the pandemic still continuing to devastate the world economies, it is clear the LRA may reach the lowest point in revenue collection this financial year.

The LRA Commissioner General Thabo Khasipe has told this publication in a brief interview that the authority will definitely fail if businesses are not functioning.

"COVID-19 kills the economy and that means no tax revenue for LRA, because we collect from businesses. If they die, LRA fails," Khasipe said on Monday.



LRA Commissioner General Thabo Khasipe

He went on to deliver chilling warning that the spread of the pandemic also means that even the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) collections will suffer and decline drastically.

"Also, SACU revenue which is collected by the five member states when trading with the rest of the world will be affected. Without adequate international trade due to the pandemic, there is no money collected in the form of tariffs. No SACU money to share by member states means no revenue for LRA and the government of Lesotho," the Commissioner General added.

He emphasised the importance of dealing with the pandemic, citing that there is no LRA unless the pandemic is dealt with accordingly. He said no job is better than that of fighting the pandemic if the country is to avoid the economic Armageddon ahead.

Khasipe's comments came shortly after his

appointment as the Chief Executive Officer of the Disaster Management Authority (DMA).

The appointment is on secondment for 36 months and will afford Khasipe full responsibilities to set up a new structure of the DMA, recruit personnel for the office, train staff and oversee its operations.

The appointment left many people frustrated, arguing that it is wrong for Khasipe to hold more than one senior position while there are other people waiting for such opportunities.

The government however, showed that Khasipe will not be paid any salary and other benefits from the DMA position as his appointment is a national crisis response to utilise resources that include financial and human capital that is already within reach from all sectors of government.

Khasipe will still enjoy full benefits as the LRA Commissioner General.

Technology

The best face masks to use for running in 2020

The lightweight, moisture-wicking face masks you need for all your runs.

With the continuation of Covid-19 mask regulations in the world and the slow reopening of gyms and fitness centres, many people have been exercising outside with a face mask.

If you are a runner, it's a good idea to invest in a high-quality mask. You probably know how unpleasant running in a mask that wasn't made specifically for exercising can be - surgical masks, for example, can easily get soggy and smelly.

I wore each of the face masks listed here while running two miles to test their performance. I've completed 24 miles so far, and I still have more masks to try out - who says writing is a sedentary job?

The 5 best face masks for running

During my testing, the following five masks stood out to me for various reasons, but they all had one thing in common: They didn't make my run suck exponentially more than usual.

Athleta Made to Move Mask (3-pack)

I love this mask. I had to put extra emphasis there so you know exactly how much I love this mask. I want to shout how much I love this mask from the rooftops. OK, gushing over.

Here are the specs: The Athleta Made to Move Mask is a soft, nonmedical mask made of polyester, spandex and mesh. That alone should tell you how light and breathable this mask is.

The Made to Move Mask has two layers of fabric and extremely soft, adjustable ear straps.

Buff USA Filter Mask

Lightweight, breathable, moisture-wicking and



adjustable: This product is everything you need in a face mask for running. The Buff USA Filter Mask is made of 95% polyester and 5% elastane (spandex), which gives it the perfect amount of stretch.

It also features wide elastic head straps that adjust easily -- it employs the same mechanism used to adjust a bra strap. I found the wide straps to stay in place better than thinner straps on other masks.

This mask technically requires the use of a filter, which I'm not a huge fan of, but you can always leave it out. It just might not be as effective at reducing the spread of germy

particles without the filter.

Mission Cooling Gaiter Face Cover

If you're more of a neck gaiter person, go with the Mission Cooling Gaiter/Face Cover for running. I'm not sure exactly how this thing works, but it's like it takes your sweat and turns it into cold vapor. I was fully expecting to dislike this neck gaiter, but it quickly became one of my favorite face masks for running when I realized I wasn't turning into a sweaty mess.

The product description does say it "activates with water to cool to 30° F below average body temperature," and I suppose sweat can work as water. I did have some issues with this neck gaiter slipping down slightly, but I think I might just have a small head, because I let a friend try it out and she had no problems.

Beyond Yoga In This Together Mask (2-pack)

The Beyond Yoga face mask came in a very close second to the Athleta mask for me. The one factor that kept this mask from snagging first place? The head straps. Everything about the Beyond Yoga mask is perfect for running, but yikes, I struggled with the straps.

Zensah Performance Face Mask

Zensah makes all kinds of performance clothes and accessories, so an athletic face mask was a natural addition to the brand's offerings. I loved this mask mainly because of the fit: It felt snug but not restricting. The seams of the mask stayed glued to my face, yet there was space between my nose and lips and the interior fabric.

Cnet

More people visit France than any other country



France is a beautiful country, filled to the brim with delicious wines, scrumptious cheese, and tons of romance. So it's no surprise that, at least before

Covid-19, more people want to visit France than any other country in the world, according to the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

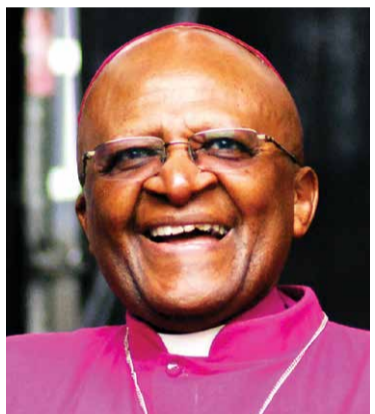
In 2017, the European country welcomed 86.9 million people. Spain was the second-most popular destination with 81.8 million visitors, followed by the United States (76.9 million), China (60.7 million), and Italy (58.3 million). La vie est belle!

Jargon Buster

Accounts receivable

This is the amount of money your customers or clients owe your business for goods or services you supply. This total value can give you a snapshot of the amount owed to your business at any given time.

Cracks



Bishop Desmond Tutu

Bishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa is very fond of this joke: When the missionaries came to Africa, we had the land and they had the Bible. Then they said, "Let us pray..." and asked us to close our eyes. By the time the prayer was over, they now had the land and we had the Bible. And he usually ends the joke by adding, "And I think we got the better deal."

READ Online

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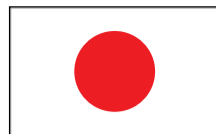
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Europe's Euro
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British Pound
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Japanese Yen
¥0.16



Chinese Yuan
¥2.49



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COMMODITIES (International Rates in US\$)

STOCKS	
S&P500	3,319.00
NASDAQ100	11,295.25
Nikkei225	23,509.77
Dow Jones30	27,270.00
FTSE 100	5,897.50
JSE	54,248.00
Hang Seng	23,476.53
PRECIOUS METALS	PRICE (US\$)
Gold	1,890.00
Platinum	881.00
Silver	23.92
Copper	6,546.20
Crude Oil / Brent Oil	38.90
EQUITIES	
Bonds	18.44
Treasury Bills	3.67
Interest Rates	7.67

AGRICULTURE (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Maize Meal p/kg	M7.00	Eggs p/tray	M45.00
Wheat Meal p/kg	M10.00	Milk (fresh) p/litre	M16.00
Cabbage p/kg	M14.00	Milk (sour) p/litre	M20.00
Potatoes p/kg	M10.50	Rice p/kg	M30.00
Brown Bread p/loaf	M10.00	White Sugar p/kg	M22.00
White Bread p/loaf	M11.00	Brown Sugar p/kg	M25.00
Sorghum Meal p/kg	M25.00	Beef p/kg	M85.00
Brown Beans p/kg	M30.00	Mutton p/kg	M90.00
Tomato	M15.00		

ENERGY (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Petrol Unleaded 93 p/litre	M11.60
Unleaded 95 p/litre	M11.70
Diesel 50PPm p/litre	M11.85
Paraffin p/litre	M6.75
Water (Domestic) p/litre	M5.53
Water (Industrial) p/litre	M15.03
Electricity (Domestic) p/unit	M1.38
Electricity (Industrial) p/unit	M0.26
Gas p/kg	M20.00

Consumer body supports ban on import cars



Minister of Trade and Industry Dr Thabiso Molapo

NEO SENOKO
 business@maserumetro.com

MASERU - Consumers might interpret government decision to impose a suspension on the issuance of import permits for used motor vehicles as immoral but the decision could save the economy, Consumer Protection Association (CPA) has said.

On September 15, an internal memo was leaked from the Ministry of Trade and Industry announcing that the minister had decided to impose a moratorium on the issuance of import permits for used motor vehicles coming from outside the Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU) region.

The memo, which was later confirmed by the ministry, further stated that the ministry had also decided to impose a moratorium on the issuance of new trader's licenses for motor dealers effective from Tuesday September 15 until further notice.

The decision, which met serious criticism on different social media platforms, came after a resolution by government that the industry is not well regulated.

Some of the main challenges which prompted the decision include alleged corruption in the issuance of trader's licenses as well as alleged tax invasion practices happening in the industry.

That means the revenue that is being collected in from businesses goes directly into the pockets of the owners, majority of which are foreigners and then shipped out of the country for investment elsewhere.

That is because most of the import car dealers do not invest their monies with any of the local commercial banks.

Government further suspects that the Lesotho Revenue Authority (LRA) is struggling to collect enough revenue from such businesses due to absence of digital

payments.

As a result, government decided to impose a temporary suspension of the issuance of import permits pending own investigations into the matter.

"As investigations continue into the matter, we have decided to halt operations in the industry to allow us enough time to see what is really happening without any form of interruption.

"It is important, however, to mention that individually, Basotho are still allowed to buy cars from these countries. One of our main focuses is to ensure we level the playing field to ensure that Basotho are able to benefit through this type of business," Minister of Trade and Industry Dr Thabiso Molapo said last week.

The Consumer Protection Unit on the other hand has come out, saying that while consumers may see it otherwise, the decision by government will partly benefit the country.

This, they say is because these vehicles, mostly imported from Japan and Singapore are killing a lot of people and do not have a direct benefit towards boosting domestic economy.

"There is so much illegitimacy happening in this industry. People illegally get hold of driver's licenses just so that they can buy these cars and shortly cause accidents afterwards because they are not qualified drivers.

"Government should come out with measures to ensure that Basotho are in a

position to do these things on their own and not rely on other countries. Another problem is that these people just take our monies and go back to invest in their own countries. Comparatively, government should look into South African market to see how Lesotho can benefit through their second hand car market," Consumer Protection Association's Nkareng Letsie said in an interview with Metro on Tuesday.

On the side of the consumers, however, Letsie admitted that it is a tough decision because import cars are cheaper and more comfortable compared to the local brands.

The only problem, according to him is that some of these cars come all the way from Japan and Singapore already not in good shape and therefore not roadworthy. That, he said has turned Lesotho into a scrapyard for these countries.

According to local economist, Tebello Tjapela, there is no need for Basotho to panic but all should focus on the future benefit of the government undertaking.

"It is obvious that there is a problem that government wants to solve with this policy which is in the best interest of the economy. So if people are going to lose any money during this period, I would go with the saying that it is better to suffer temporarily as we prepare to benefit in a long run.

"For instance, they are talking of corruption and alleged tax evasion in the industry and all these things negatively affect our economy. Sometimes you find that five companies are using a single trader's license that is where the issue of tax evasion comes in. That on its own is not good for our economy," Tjapela said.

The LRA on the other hand has decided not to say much on the matter, citing that talks are still in progress with the ministry regarding the problem at hand and how best it can be addressed.

Lawyer blasts government over border closure

STAFF REPORTER

LADYBRAND - Maseru lawyer Advocate Nthabiseng Motjolojane has blasted government for closing the border with Lesotho during the six-month lockdown, saying the closure was ill-advised and has adversely affected the local economy.

Motjolojane said the measure which became enforceable on March 27 was more lethal than the dreaded coronavirus as it had left thousands of people without jobs and the local economy teetering on the brink.

She said the measure was draconian and illogical.

"The World Health Organisation (WHO) has already said to them the outcomes for corona in Africa are completely different from Europe, Americas and everywhere else. They do not find that one out. Our immune systems have been dealing with worse and we have survived but what they are doing is to kill you mentally, physically, emotionally. They subdue you. That's exactly what they are doing.

who are economically active with businesses that actually support their economy this side (Ladybrand). That is illogical.

"They are now at level 1. We have been abiding by this for a complete six months. They are moving to Level Zero, God only knows when. If they are moving to that level what is precluding them from continuing with screening because when I cross the border, it's 15 minutes to my office and 15 minutes back home," she said after being turned away from Ladybrand covid-19 testing centre.

Business owners and cross border workers have been told to approach private medical facilities for the test which costs R850.

Free State department of health spokesman Mondli Mvambi on Tuesday said government health facilities would not test and issue clearance certificates to leisure and economic travellers.

"We don't randomly test. Our policy is to screen people and test the eligible ones who show signs and symptoms as per the screening tool," he said in a brief WhatsApp interview.

Announcing the border re-opening,

President Cyril Ramaphosa early this month said

only land border posts that had remained operational during the lockdown and the three main airports: King Shaka, OR Tambo and Cape Town International Airport would process travellers.

Travellers arriving in South Africa would need to present a negative COVID-19 test result not older than 72 hours from time of departure, he said.

"Where a traveller has not done a COVID-19 test prior to departure, they will be required to remain in mandatory quarantine at their own cost.

"All travellers will be screened on arrival and those presenting with symptoms will be required to remain in quarantine until a repeat COVID-19 test is conducted."

Lesotho Prime Minister Moeketsi Majoro mimicked Ramaphosa, dashing the hopes of thousands of Basotho migrant workers who have not been home since March 26 and had hoped South Africa's move to Lockdown Level 1 would allow them to re-unite with their families.



Lesotho Prime Minister Dr Moeketsi Majoro

Motjolojane who practices in Maseru but lives in Ladybrand said strict border crossing requirements would not offer any immediate relief to frequent travellers between the two countries, mainly business owners and transient workers.

Good rains expected in October



Minister of Agriculture and Food Security Tefo Mapesela

NEO SENOKO

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MASERU - The country is expected to have normal rains for the period October to March next year with a likelihood of above normal rainfall.

This was revealed by the Lesotho Meteorological Services

(LMS) in their newly released climate outlook for October to March next year.

However, dry episodes are still expected between the good rains.

"The onset of rains for this rainy season is anticipated to be towards the end of October in the highlands while mid-November in

the lowlands," LMS says.

Normal temperatures are also expected in the same period, with high chances of rising above average.

Occurrences of strong winds, lightning, severe thunderstorm, flash floods and hailstorms should also be anticipated as these are

common weather phenomena in summer.

Climate change is expected to exacerbate occurrence of these conditions resulting in increased frequency and intensity of these extreme weather events.

The rainy period expected between October and March

next year means that farmers should be readily prepared for summer cropping which has been suffering in recent years due to unpredictable weather conditions coupled with below average rainfall.

Due to the unpredictable weather conditions in recent years, a lot of farmers decided to quit farming, leaving the country's agricultural sector vulnerable.

But, most of them were recently encouraged by Prime Minister Dr Moeketsi Majoro, reiterating on some of his platforms that Basotho should throw more weight towards agriculture as government is prepared to buy some of the local produce.

Minister of Agriculture and Food Security Tefo Mapesela has also made things easier for farmers by subsidising farmers' costs on inputs such as fertilisers and seeds.

The outlook further confirmed that the delayed onset of rains in 2019 resulted in poor agricultural production in Lesotho, forcing the country to seek assistance elsewhere.

"Good rains were received from December 2019 and continued into April 2020 where most areas received normal to above normal rainfall. These rains ended the then prevailed dry conditions but were not very useful for summer cropping as they came quite late into the cropping season," the outlook report states.

The report further warns that there is a likelihood of neutral to weak La Nina (enhanced precipitation) during December to February 2021.

This calls for a better planning and alignment of productive economic activities with the prevailing and expected weather conditions.

SACU hosts virtual ministerial retreat

MASERU - The Southern African Customs Union (SACU) Secretariat last week hosted a virtual Council of Ministerial Retreat, which among others focused on the need to redefine a clear vision for the body in changing global and regional landscape and developments that have an impact on it.

A statement released by the regional outfit reveals that the fourth Council Retreat was attended by all the Ministers responsible for Trade and Industry, and Finance in SACU Member States.

It was chaired by the South African Minister of Finance Tito Mboweni who is the current Chairperson of the SACU Council of Ministers.

It highlights that the retreat focused on a number of topical and pressing issues for SACU which include activities that could be prioritised for SACU going forward and their sequencing.

It states that some of the current pressing challenges that the SACU region face include the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the SACU

Common Revenue Pool; the imminent implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA); SACU's approach and its positioning in relation to industrialisation and the development of regional value chains as well as the need to strengthen SACU's productive capacity.

The statement further says ministers reaffirmed their Member States' commitment to SACU's Vision, Mission and objectives. The ministers agreed that while the discussions around the Revenue Sharing Formula (RSF) and the architecture for Tariff-setting remain at the heart of SACU, they agreed to refocus the Work Programme towards more pressing issues where there is overall convergence.

The statement indicates that these include a renewed focus on industrialisation, development of regional value chains, trade facilitation and investment promotion. The Retreat further agreed that there is a need for the SACU Member States to work together through a regionally coordinated approach not

only to successfully build a SACU economy that would be more resilient against future external and internal shocks, but also to have an economy that supports industrialisation and resource mobilisation through targeted programmes and interventions.

The statement says ministers agreed that the outcomes of the SACU Ministers of Trade and Industry engagement held on August 28 would form the basis for cooperation on Regional Industrialisation, Investment and Export Promotion.

Accordingly, the Trade Ministers underscored the importance of industrialisation in SACU and agreed on the need to adopt a common vision to advance the work on industrialisation, both in SACU and at the continental level focusing on regional value chains.

At the same time, the Ministers acknowledged that regional industrialisation, investment and export promotion will require the mobilisation of substantial financial resources.

The statements shows that



SA Minister of Finance Tito Mboweni

cooperation amongst national Development Finance Institutions and the Private Sector will be crucially important to facilitate the movement of goods within the region, but also to finance the productive capacity of the region to produce more complex and high margin products with higher employment creation capabilities.

The Ministers committed to finalise a clear roadmap and strategy to advance a streamlined SACU Work Programme with concrete focus on industrialisation, development of regional values chains, trade facilitation and a regional financing mechanism within the next six months.

STAFF REPORTER

Trade minister encourages business development

MASERU – The Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr Thabiso Molapo has encouraged Basotho to venture into different types of businesses through the financial assistance of the Lesotho National Development Corporation (LNDC).

Speaking at a district road show that was held at Leribe English Medium in Hlotse, Leribe on Friday, the minister said both the government and LNDC had contributed up to M410 million towards the development of local businesses.

The road show was aimed at promoting the LNDC Development Finance Instruments within the local private sector and participating commercial banks that have presence in the selected districts to promote Investment Opportunities.

It was also meant to create a platform for LNDC stakeholders to engage the local sector.

Dr Molapo further urged Basotho to apply for financial assistance to start new businesses and boost existing ones, adding however that more foreigners are trading than Basotho.

He was quick to show that there are several business opportunities which Basotho can venture into while LNDC through its representatives will guide them through the different kinds of financial assistance on offer.

He also appealed to Basotho to engage in agriculture, saying residents of Leribe should use the Tsikoane Market Centre to their advantage.

He said the government has engaged several people in the public service, hence, the private sector should also do its bit by contributing to the reduction of the high unemployment level in the country.

He further urged those who are still struggling to get their businesses off the ground to come forward to get assistance.

"It is time we sold our products to the whole world," he also said.

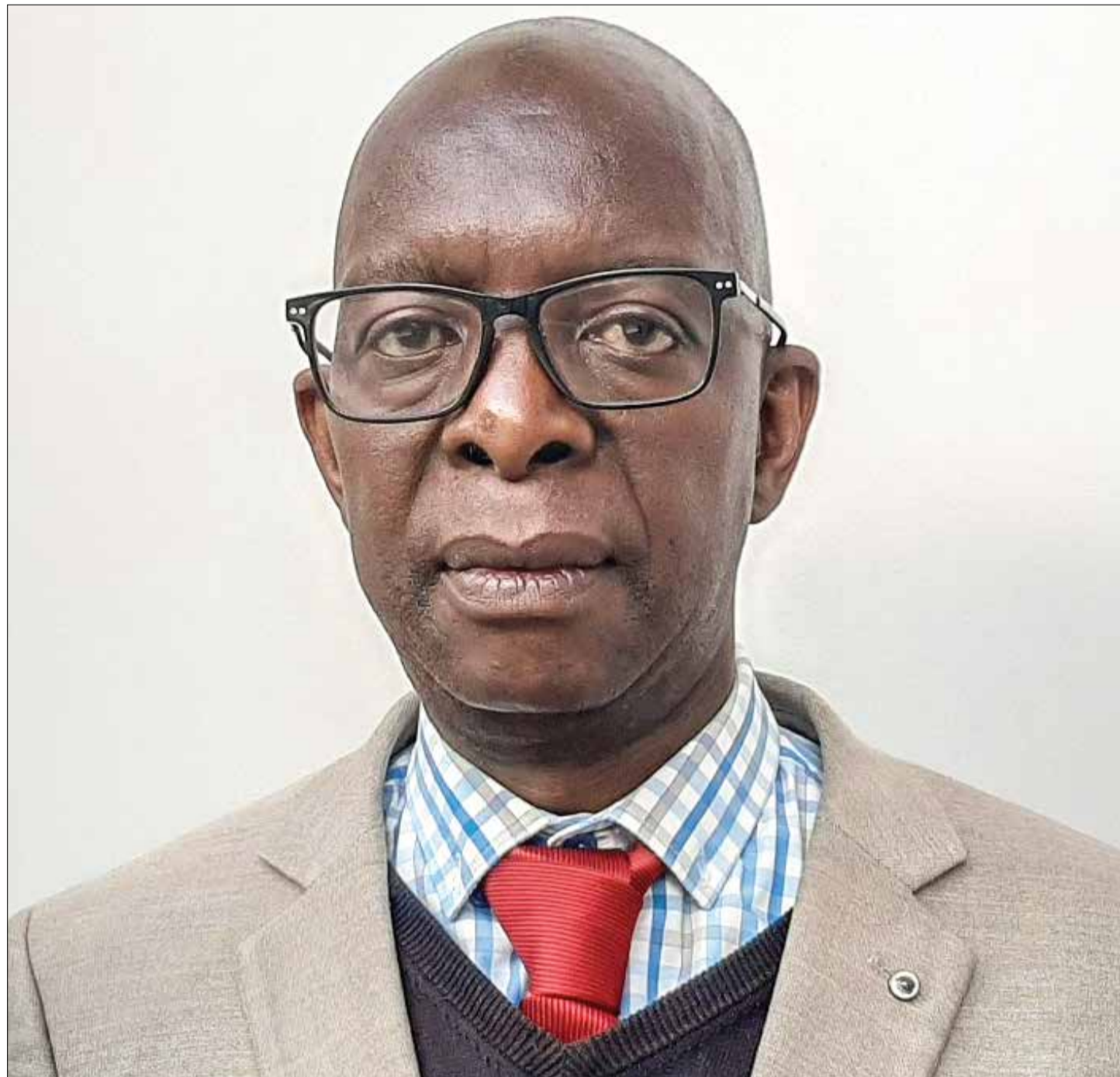
Addressing the youth, Dr Molapo encouraged them to come together and form societies and joint businesses.

For his part, the Chief Executive Officer of LNDC Mohato Seleke said it is the responsibility of the corporation to ensure that the government's concern on business growth is adhered.

He said from 2017, LNDC has come up with three major pillars, the Property Development Management which is focused on building of factories, LNDC Development Finance unit which is aimed at sourcing funds for the business people and how they can produce and the Investment and Trade Promotion aimed at investments opportunities within and outside Lesotho.

Echoing similar sentiments, the General Manager Development Finance Business Unit Theko Bereng said there are different loans agreements that the business community has the opportunity to apply for.

The first he said is the Quasi Equity instrument which provides innovative finance to



Minister of Trade and Industry Dr Thabiso Molapo

fast growing local companies and promises high development effects.

He said there is also the Equity Finance product available to support National Strategic Development Programme (NSDP) II aligned projects initiated or promoted by the corporation.

Mr Bereng said business owners also benefit from the Partial Credit Guarantee (COVID-19 Response) which offers zero application and guarantee fees offering up to 75 percent guarantee, M8 million maximum guaranteed and M200 000 minimum.

Lepota Nkisi who is a private entrepreneur said every business owner needs financial assistance during this period of COVID-19, adding that competition for assistance has gone up.

Tough COVID-19 tests dash travellers' hopes



South African President Cyril Ramaphosa

LADYBRAND – Travellers who have patiently waited for borders to re-open to cross the border into Lesotho face a new hurdle owing to stringent COVID-19 testing requirements.

Travellers, both tourists and cross border workers face a further bottleneck as government health facilities are barred from testing and issuing certificates to prospective travellers.

Free State department of health spokesperson Mondli Mvambi confirmed government clinics and hospitals would not test cross travellers.

"We don't randomly test. Our policy is to screen people and test the eligible ones who show signs and symptoms as per the screening tool," he said in a brief WhatsApp interview.

Announcing the border re-opening, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa early this month said only land border posts that had remained operational during the lockdown and the three main airports: King Shaka, OR Tambo and Cape Town International Airports would process travellers.

Travellers arriving in South Africa would need to present a negative COVID-19 test result not older than 72 hours from the time of departure, he said.

"Where a traveller has not done a COVID-19 test prior to departure, they will be required to remain in mandatory quarantine at their own cost.

"All travellers will be screened on arrival and those presenting with symptoms will be required to remain in quarantine until a repeat COVID-19 test is conducted."

Prime Minister Dr Moeketsi Majoro echoed Ramaphosa's sentiments, dashing the hopes of thousands of Basotho migrant workers who have been home since March 26 and had hoped South Africa's move to Lockdown level 1 would allow them to re-unite with their families.

It was not immediately clear how the 72-hour testing window period would affect hundreds of South African workers and business people who work in Maseru but live in Ladybrand.

This group crosses the border daily.



Thought Leader with Advocate Ndumo

Chronicling Basotho's economic achievements to inform the present and the future

Dr Sean Maliehe (PhD)

is an Economic Historian and Ethnographer of commerce, money and mobile phones in Lesotho and South Africa (Diepsloot). He is currently a Research Fellow in the Department of Historical & Heritage Studies at the University of Pretoria.

Dr Maliehe (SM)'s new project is on the history of the Southern African Customs Union. He has published widely in accredited journals and various other platforms. His book, *Commerce as Politics:*

The Two Centuries of Basotho Struggle for Economic Independence, will be published soon by Berghahn Books, under the Human Economy Book Series. In this engrossing interview with **Advocate Mothepa Ndumo (MN)**, he discusses issues on chronicling Basotho's glorious, authentic economic achievements from a historical perspective to inform the present and the future.

MN: You are an Economic Historian who has written extensively about the history of economic collaboration in Lesotho, what inspired you to pursue this line of inquiry, why was it important for you?

SM: I did both my BA and MA at the National University of Lesotho. This is where my academic journey began. I majored in Development Studies and Environmental History. So, from those early years, I was exposed to and grappled with questions of poverty, development, and the state of African economies.

This was the first time I encountered scholars like Marx, Smith, Malthus, Weber, Rodney, Amin, Wallerstein, Cardoso, Mamdani, Mkandawiri, Mafeje, Mandaza, Fanon, Mlambo, Zeleza, Thabane, Machobane, Gill, Anderson, Beinart, Ferguson, and many others. I still remember how I was so fascinated with Freud, Piaget, Popper, and Maslow. In this way, I was introduced to something called "academia" – something I did not even know existed.

The natural impulse was to go to school for a better future – a good

job, get married, have children, give them a better future, and so on.

Their ideas and writings fascinated me. I was consuming a wide range of literature and I was doing many courses. We needed 36 credit hours to pass to the next level. Many of us in the BA and B. Ed programmes had about 68 credit hours per year. We were in class from 7am to 7 pm, Monday to Friday.

I remember in third year: I wrote six courses first semester and 10 second semester. My lowest mark was a "B". All my life, I really enjoyed studying and in those early years, books gave me refuge from a society that often rejected me as a mixed child born to traditional healers.

I could breathe and I became myself when surrounded by books. Like many Basotho, I was on a government sponsorship (Manpower) and I knew that it was my only chance at succeeding in life. I quickly learned that good grades could increase my chances of getting a good scholarship abroad to pursue postgraduate studies.

I graduated top of the Faculty in 2008 being the only First Class that year and subsequently got a Distinction for my MA. Good grades increased my chances.

Many of my lecturers played crucial role and I had a good relationship with many of them, if not all. I still do even today. I seek advice from them. I share my work with them. They use my work in their classes.

I have taught with them as well. I would like to highlight, however, that Professor Motlatsi Thabane impacted me massively back then. He introduced to us the histories of the ordinary people within a historiographic landscape that was dominated by metanarratives, grand historical figures, and episodes, and so on. I resonated more with this history and ended up studying the history of ordinary Basotho in colonial commerce under his supervision.

I then studied the post-colonial period supervised by Prof. Mlambo for my PhD. In Pretoria, I was in the Human Economy Programme launched by Prof. Keith Hart and

John Sharp. As an approach, the human economy puts people first in the economy within a context of competing global interests. I was drawn to Prof. Hart's ideas. At undergraduate level, we were introduced to his work on the informal economy in one course in Development Studies, 'Urbanisation and Cities in the Third World'.

A Norwegian friend gave me an introduction to a book that he had recently published with his colleagues (*The Human Economy: A Citizens' Guide*, 2010). So, my academic interests have always been focused on how the ordinary people make and remake their lives notwithstanding odds obstinately stacked against them.

MN: During the course of your research, what core lessons have you drawn about Basotho and our history of economic collaboration?

SM: A primary question that drove my research was to test the veracity of a popular view that Basotho have performed poorly in business due to a lack of adequate spirit of entrepreneurship and business skill. In many ways, that is a fallacy. true Basotho had to learn new skill requirements that came with modern enterprises but trade itself was not anything new to them.

So, I felt that we just cannot accept that colonial view without questioning it. When I started, and to date, not many people have written on this subject. As a result, we knew little about their history. There were some studies on the Europeans, Indians, and recently, the East Asian traders. My work chronicled Basotho's own forms of economic initiatives across time.

Colonialism and neo-colonialism are some of the forces that have persistently worked against the people. The elites have always advanced their interests often at the expense of the people. All post-colonial governments inherited various colonial legacies giving little room for Basotho to grow.

And Basotho have suffered so much under tyranny since

independence. No wonder it continues to be difficult to imagine a more just economy after the collapse of the regional mining economy, to which Basotho were the major suppliers of male labour.

MN: One of the most common refrains, in terms of the Fourth Industrial Revolution discourses, is the emphasis on collaboration in general and economic collaboration as a species of collaboration, how do we revive this culture in our society at a time when we are so fractured?

SM: I think the elites and politicians are more fragmented and lack direction as they pursue their own narrow interests to fill up their pockets. As a result, there is an appearance of a lack of social cohesion generally in the country. In some of my works, I question this whole notion that Basotho lack unity and economic solidarity.

How have they been surviving all along when the politicians are busy killing each other and the economy? In 2017, I was commissioned by the UNDP to study mobile financial services among rural and poor communities in Lesotho. Compared to many countries, including South Africa, which is performing so poorly in this aspect, Basotho embraced these new technologies enthusiastically changing the financial landscape.

Some scholars are even coining phrases like 'Africa is leap frogging' the industrialisation process to capture these technological advances. If we alter our lenses, focusing on what is happening, then we get to see that there is more happening on the ground.

Our governments are awfully slow and might not even catch up. Young people are using technologies to promote their businesses, to share ideas, and so on. We need to do away with colonial and imperial tropes that there is nothing happening in Africa.

The history of Basotho in the nineteenth century, for example, demonstrates that Basotho can use

technology to change their fortunes. Under precarious conditions of poverty and wars in the post-Lifaqane period, they adopted various agricultural technologies, guns and horses, which allowed them to produce remarkable economic transformation by the mid-nineteenth century and they were the 'granary' of South African mining towns by the 1870s.

We need to learn from this history for the younger generation to discover their purpose and direction. History, and the Humanities in general, have a lot to teach us. We cannot only depend on expert knowledge yielded by a few.

MN: In terms of a policy direction, where do you think we should be headed with regard to the fostering and formalisation of economic collaboration among Basotho?

SM: The obsession with the formalisation of economic organisation is a dominant enlightenment ideal. It lacks economic pluralism and an understanding of how the personal and impersonal are always interwoven in various economic formations.

The formal is always the flipside of the informal, and vice versa. Many government departments and businesses are run like the personal properties of various individuals that occupy high positions. So, we must also be careful not to overly emphasise technocratism. As far as I am concerned, building on various forms of political and economic solidarity is a priority.

We need policymakers that try to understand what is happening on the ground. Typically, our policies are elite consensus parachuted on to the people without their participation and say.

So, we need to engage our governments robustly and be more political, intentional, and provocative. We do not need to join a political party for that. How often do we hear the phrase: 'Lesotho has good policies but lacks implementation?'

Emporium Thinking: From Egosystems To Ecosystems (Part 1)

In this part, I focus on a line of thinking and inquiry that I formulated in 2018 upon realising the economic collaboration deficits that we deal with as Basotho and as Africans. The concept around which I have organised my thoughts is called, Emporium Thinking. Economic collaboration has been around for as long as we have existed but somewhere along our historical timelines, the golden threads that bind Basotho together economically, and Africans in general, got severed.

We can now however see an uptick in economic collaboration in the grassroots of our economy as Basotho and we must document that story. We have had schools of thought and practice such as our beloved deceased Elder, Julius Nyerere's Ujamaa, and, as we explore Exponential Age Basotho and African economies and entrepreneurship, we must intentionally draw wisdom from such schools of thought.

We have had Mafisa le Matsema since time immemorial. As Dr Sean Maliehe explains in this week's Thought Leader interview, economic collaboration has been sewn painstakingly inside our DNA by The Creator. Every single culture and society throughout human history has had one form or the other of economic collaboration, that is how we become a society, a nation, regional economic communities etc. I conceived of Emporium Thinking to be a school of thought that addresses the specifics of exponential age socio-cultural contexts and yet, to be a dynamic school of thought that brings in wisdom from yesteryear. Right, let us start with the

basics, why did I choose the word "Emporium"?

An "Emporium" is generally defined, by various platforms, as a large retail outlet housing several departments or a large marketplace of goods and services. Major cities globally, like Johannesburg and Lagos, have also been referred to as Emporiums of trade and commerce. In this context, Emporium Thinking signifies visionary and collaborative entrepreneurial thinking and practices which will advance domestic, regional, and continental economies by nurturing and ensuring large-scale ownership of African economies by Africans first and foremost.

We are structurally far behind and always playing catch-up for

it matters the most, in the pocket, whether that pocket is your personal pocket or the pocket of the nation through the fiscus. Re khathetse ke litšotleho hle bana ba 'M'e le Ntate.

that illustrate the way we, generally, do entrepreneurship and why this is problematic for our prospects, first from the viewpoint of Lesotho as a nation, and also in terms of how we

BUSINESS UNUSUAL

MOTHEPA NDUMO



There are scenarios that play out in major African metropolises that are indicative of an economic culture that is not sufficiently appreciative of our historical context as Africans

impact Africa.

Typical Scenario One: A hundred solo entrepreneurs operate small spaza shops (an



"I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought."

(1 Corinthians 1:10 NIV)

historical reasons. It is what it is. We therefore have to think of ways in which we can ensure that we are indeed not left behind where

and what this moment in world history requires of us from a group economics perspective. I will offer two typical scenarios

informal trading store) in townships and informal settlements, all within a 2km radius of each other. A huge national retail chain dominates

the retail sector and enjoys the patronage of most of the citizens, including, sometimes, the 100 solo entrepreneurs themselves and their families.

These small enterprises are simply not structured in a way nor thought of collaboratively as a vehicle that is primed to offer the major retailers some healthy competition that could hopefully see lower pricing passed down to the customers.

Typical Scenario Two:

Lined along the streets of a major African city, you may find hundreds, if not thousands, of individually owned and operated popcorn vending machines, airtime kiosks, women braiding hair in little kiosks or out in the open, vendors selling water by the cup to passersby, women roasting mealies and some selling clothing items.

The ingenuity of filling up a bucket of water and buying a block of ice from an ice vendor or filling station, then going to a buzzing bus rank or walking around the CBD selling it by the cup struck me as a law student at the National University of Lesotho. Growing up in the Transkei, I had never seen anything quite like it.

Now, how do these typical scenarios advance our economic agenda as Basotho and Africans?

Africans are an endlessly resourceful people but when it comes to collaboration, a necessity in the Exponential Age that is upon us, there is a lot of work that has to be done to inculcate a mode of entrepreneurship that mainstreams collaborative economic culture in our society as opposed to placing it in the margins.

Mothepe Ndumo is a Legal Academic at the National University of Lesotho, Industrial Sociologist and Certified Executive Coach. www.higherselfcoaching.org

A man With a Master plan-Part 3

"So," I repeated to Katiso, "You judge my success by the office desk? Is that your metric? And what is success?"

He shrugged his shoulders.

"What's your religion?"

"Christianity," he replied slowly, "Roman Catholic."

"According to Christianity, does God want us to be successful?"

"There are actually scriptures which attain to that," he said confidently. I was expecting that from him.

"Don't lie," I sharply rebuked him. "It's prosperity. Sometimes wealth. Unlike success, which can be equated to perfection, or something like the last stop, prosperity comprehends improvement. A human being is incapable of reaching perfection; he can only prosper or better put, improve for better. And that should be the theme of your personal mission statement."

Two weeks later, Katiso walked excitedly into my office. It's been two weeks of formulating his mission statement. It has not been easy, I had sent him back to refine and perfect over 10 times. He had called me the

previous day excitedly telling me that he finally got it.

"Let's hear it," I said the moment he walked into my office.

He read from the notepad as he sat down, "My Personal Mission Statement is to reignite the fire".

For a moment I sat there and stared at him in shock, then admiration trickled in and I had to stop myself from smiling. Then I did what I never did since the beginning of our programme. I rose to my feet and poured him a double of single malt whiskey. The personal mission statement (PMS) sounded right because it has been well brewed; slowly...gently...thoroughly. I was proud of him.

But to him I said indifferently, "Tell me about the winner in you that justifies your PMS."

He started chanting his affirmations, "I am patient; I can wait. I am passionate; I cannot give up on them. I am creative; I can think of solution. I am analytical I can spot their hiccups."

Another double of whisky. Wonderful.

"How will this PMS help you achieve your goals?" I tested him.

"Not goals, sir," he corrected (and I smiled inwardly). "Let's call

them milestones! And my most upcoming milestone is to have a firm which helps reignite at least 10 fires a day. That's to help 10 clients every day. By the end of April, I will also feel a sense of temporary achievement when I have a family living in a

expectations, we get disappointed and most of the time depressed. And then we stop trying (or improving), which makes God a little bit angry. But if we strive for prosperity (or constant improvement), then we never fail. We only learn a lesson."

MIND CULTIVATOR

MR MASHAPE MOSALA



double story house and maybe twins: a boy and a girl. However, if I am unable to achieve any of that by April, then I will shrug just keep improving until I get there one day, hopefully sooner."

Still with an indifferent face I tested him further, "What is wrong with 'to build the largest consultancy firm in Lesotho' as your PMS?"

He was happy to answer, "Because competitive PMSs limit our prosperity flow or the natural way we should be gathering wealth. And when we fail to live up to our

More whiskey.

"Tell me something funny about yourself."

He started laughing, "I am broke. I do not have a spouse. I do not have a car. I suck with romance and social life. I have a beer belly."

"And what's so funny about it?"

"Laughing at problems, sorry correction, situations, is to embrace them. Because I can improve now that I have admitted them. It's like confessing my sins. It's a first step to being better."

"And how do you plan to improve them?"

"By using the four balances of life:

"First by being a better animal; waking up early so that I complete my tasks for the day. How about a gym to kill off the beer belly? Remembering that eating healthy is almost free, nature made sure of that!"

"Secondly being a good craftsman. Reading books from morons who think they know better than me...and they probably do. "Keeping positive thoughts while still noting my shortcomings and afflictions. Anything to empower my dull mind really.

"Thirdly, being a good friend to anyone and almost everyone (who is worth it). They say kindness melts the hardest heart. I say deserved kindness melts the hardest hearts. Go out a bit without overindulging. Maybe I could meet a nice dark girl there. I like chocolates sir.

"And finally, discovering who I am; Church. Meditation. Prayer. Yoga... whatever. As long as I let that whatever to guide my life and monitor my principles and help in retaining my identity. That will be the source of my inspiration and motivation," he says.

I shelved the edge to pour him more whiskey; he needed to be corrected on this one on a sober state, "Let's re-arrange the Four Dimensions of Renewal."

Till next time...

This is Lesotho...

... In News



Former army boss Lieutenant General Tlali Kamoli

Justice will probably be finally served on November 2 when former army boss Lieutenant General Tlali Kamoli and his four cronies appear before the High Court to stand trial.

The five soldiers are accused of 14 counts of attempted murder including alleged bombings that occurred in Ha Abia and Moshoeshoe II on January 27, 2014.

The four other accused military men comprise Pitso Ramoepana, Litekanyo Nyakane, Malefane Heqoa and Mohlalefi Seitheko.

But as things stand now, some of the accused no longer have legal representation in court as their lawyers ditched them without clear explanation.

The court has however, this week ordered the Registrar to secure lawyers for the unrepresented soldiers before the trial commences.

At least 39 witnesses are expected to give evidence in the trial.

... In Politics



Travellers at the Maputsœ border gate

After waiting patiently for the borders between Lesotho and

South Africa to re-open, travellers between the countries will definitely not have it as easy as they probably thought.

Every traveller is expected to produce a certificate that confirms their COVID-19 negative status, but unfortunately taking a COVID-19 test is going to be quite costly for ordinary citizens.

The health department in South Africa is also not planning to be too as it does not allow the testing and issuing of certificates to casual travellers.

That means only people with exceptionally valid reasons will be permitted to cross the border even though it will still be at a high cost.

Both the Lesotho and the South African governments have agreed that only land border posts that had been operating during the lockdown would be used.

These borders include the Maseru Bridge, Maputsœ/Fickburg Border Post in Leribe and the Van Rooyen's Gate in Mafeteng.

The same goes for South Africa's three main international airports, the King Shaka, OR Tambo and Cape Town International Airports.

MoneyMatters make it count

Set yourself free debt one small step at a time



Due to Covid-19 and the lockdown, many South African households had to take on debt just to make ends meet. Old Mutual Rewards can help you unchain yourself one small step at a time.

The debt holiday offered by banks at the start of lockdown gave South Africans a breather, but also saddled them with an additional M20.7 billion of debt.

Nearly half of those surveyed by the 2020 Old Mutual Savings and Investment Monitor Covid-19 Special Report confirmed their personal financial situation was worse than a year ago.

"Being indebted can be overwhelming, making families feel they will never be debt-free, but it's important to remember that success can be achieved by taking a series of small steps repeated every day," says Brett Cameron, Head of Old Mutual Rewards.

Old Mutual Rewards offers members the ability to redeem their points for vouchers that can be used for groceries, fuel, airtime and now even travel, as a reward for taking steps to protect their financial goals.

The programme is accessible to all South Africans, even if you are not an Old Mutual customer. Simply sign up for the programme now and start earning points by completing any of the questionnaires, using the calculators or watching some of the educational videos.

If you are an Old Mutual customer, you will receive a percentage of your premiums for your products back in Rewards points monthly. These points can be redeemed at any of our Rewards partners, including KFC, Steers and Uber Eats, used for online gaming with Xbox, Playstation and Steam, or 'cashed in' at health and wellness stores like Dis-Chem and Sorbet.

As the only customer loyalty programme that

rewards South Africans for achieving their financial goals, Old Mutual Rewards offers members numerous resources and tools to help understand their finances better and take the necessary steps to reach financial freedom.

"By using our array of free resources and completing online Moneyversity courses (for up to 750 points), the fully digital platform not only helps you save every day, but also offers ongoing incentives to manage your money more smartly," says Cameron.

Cameron adds that over the past 12 months, almost half of all Old Mutual Rewards members have used the Debt Repayment Calculator (for a reward of 20 points), making it the most popular resource on the digital rewards programme's platform.

How does this handy Rewards aid help you set yourself free sooner?

Clear as a blue sky

Using information like your loan amount, interest rate, and your current monthly repayment, the Old Mutual Rewards Debt Repayment Calculator shows you exactly when and how you are paying off your debt. This kind of clarity and awareness is crucial when it comes to managing your financial goals and making decisive money moves.

A little goes a long way

In the current economic climate, many South Africans have had to take on personal loans to make ends meet. According to OMSIM 2020, 43% of participants have taken out a personal loan from a financial institution, which is up from 22% in 2019.

However, some people don't realise that by adjusting their monthly repayments, they could clear their debt even sooner. The Old Mutual Rewards Debt Repayment Calculator is the ideal tool in this instance, because it allows members to see how paying additional amounts will affect their loan term and the total repayment amount in one easy-to-view place.

Cameron explains that "by entering a custom instalment amount that suits your budget, you can see what the impact will be of paying slightly more per month to service debt, enabling you to set and reach realistic financial goals".

A matter of interest

One of the dangers of a loan is the high interest it accumulates, which is effectively lost money that could be put to better use. Interest rates vary widely and depend on factors such as credit type, repayment term, and your credit score.

"The basic requirement of any loan contract is to meet minimum monthly payments over a pre-determined timeframe. So if you want your loan to cost you as little as possible, pay it back as soon as you can," says Cameron.

Using the Debt Repayment Calculator, members of Old Mutual Rewards have sight of just how much they will be able to save if they adjust their repayment contributions.

"The only way to experience financial freedom is to make small but consistent steps on a regular basis, and the beauty of Old Mutual Rewards is that you get rewarded for doing just that," concludes Cameron.

Brandstories

Out of The Ordinary

A.I. robot serves customers at Seoul restaurant



"Aglia Kim", a trolley-like robot which uses artificial intelligence (A.I.), is delivering food to customers at a restaurant in Seoul, in order to minimise human contact and help ensure social distancing.

Shortly after customers order through a

touch-screen on the table, the 1.25-meter-tall robot, developed by South Korean telecoms company KT Corp, brings the food and uses its visual SLAM (simultaneous localization and mapping) capabilities to avoid obstacles and navigate around customers.

The robot can deliver food to up to four tables at once, KT's AI Platform Business Team leader Lee Young-jin told Reuters.

The A.I. robot is equipped with food trays which can carry up to 30 kilograms and an LCD screen and speaker that communicate in both Korean and English.

"Customers found the robot serving quite unique and interesting, and also felt safe from the coronavirus," said Lee Young-ho, a manager at the Mad for Garlic restaurant which has tested the robot this month.

From Monday, restaurants and cafes in the densely populated Seoul metropolitan area are allowed to open after 9 p.m., but must leave two metres between tables and record patrons' names and contact details.

The Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA) reported 106 new coronavirus cases as of Monday, bringing its total number of infections to 22,391 with 367 deaths.

KT said that they aim to supply more robots for restaurants this year and will unveil a second model with A.I. voice recognition technology early next year.

Reuters

Metro HEALTHY Living

Correct use of contraceptives saves lives - LPPA

LINEO MABEKEBEKE

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MASERU - With so many birth control options available, choosing the most suitable form can be discouraging for many teens, the Chief Executive Officer of the Lesotho Planned Parenthood Association (LPPA) Mamojela Koneshe has said.

Delivering her keynote address at a workshop on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) on Monday in Maseru, Mrs Koneshe said the world contraception theme centres around a vision where every pregnancy is wanted.

The one-day workshop was also held as part of commemoration of the World Contraception Day (WCD), which is celebrated every year on September 26.

Launched in 2007, the WCD's mission is to improve awareness of all contraceptive methods available and enable young people to make informed choices on their sexual and reproductive health.

As LPPA, Mrs Koneshe said they strongly believe that correct and consistent use of contraceptives save lives of mothers and prevent unsafe abortions, thus helping every family to achieve its goals.

She further noted that LPPA remains committed to its mission that every pregnancy must be planned and wanted.

"Our mission is centred around what is termed 'four too's,' namely; no pregnancy should happen too early, no pregnancy should happen too late, no pregnancy should happen too often and no woman should carry too

many pregnancies," she also noted.

She added that it is their call to ensure that every woman enjoys her right to decide on when and how many pregnancies she wants to carry.

Speaking at the same event, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Representative to Lesotho Dr Marc Derveeuw showed that for one, (especially women) to have the opportunity to choose which family planning method they want is extremely important.

Dr Derveeuw said having the opportunity to choose the number of children one wants is also important and is an essential right.

For girls having the opportunity to decide when to become mothers he said is an important right in SRHR.

For his part, the Deputy Minister of Health Nto Moakhi said there are issues which are traumatising if they are not properly handled.

He further showed that there are other issues which if well-handled and well-disseminated to the young people will be helpful to them.

Mr Moakhi said there are numerous teenagers who drop out of school throughout the country due to unwanted and unplanned pregnancies.

Their lack of proper education prohibits them from accessing vital information about their health and essential rights, he said, adding that it also hides sensitive issues from them, thus destroying their lives as well as future in the process.



UNFPA representative to Lesotho Dr Marc Derveeuw

Scripture Union empowers children



Scripture Union Lesotho staff

AS part of its initiatives to empower children, the Scripture Union of Lesotho has introduced a COVID-19 outreach campaign.

According to the body's Field Coordinator Ncineselo Vet, their intention is to teach children various activities which they

can engage in without being in physical contact with each other.

Mr Vet said they have to date trained 153 children aged between

six and 13 from Ha Thamae in Maseru.

Their plan, he showed is to teach as many children as

possible to ensure that a lot of them are well informed about the pandemic.

Among others, the children are taught life skills that include how to survive and take care of themselves away from home.

Earlier on, the union's National Director Metsi Moholane had underscored their concern over children's vulnerability to the Coronavirus.

"We are aware that children are more vulnerable especially when their communities do not take necessary precautions to prevent the spread of the pandemic," Mr Moholane said, urging parents to observe all necessary protocols to ensure the safety of their children.

He added: "It is important to leave children under the care of mature people who can guarantee their safety."

He further appealed to parents to ensure that their children do not participate in contact sports.

Scripture Union encourages the public to heed the government's call to observe set the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s safety protocols like social distancing, staying at home and maintaining high levels of personal hygiene.

Motion sickness

People who suffer from motion sickness should sit nearby an open window of the vehicle and let the fresh air come in. The outside air will ease the symptoms of vertigo and giddiness making motion sickness less troublesome during the travel.

Types of Bone Fractures

There are several other terms doctors use to characterize bone fractures.

- A transverse fracture is a bone break that goes straight across the bone.
- An oblique fracture is a bone break where the bone is broken at an angle.
- A comminuted fracture is a bone break where the bone shatters into at least 3 pieces.
- A stress fracture is a hairline fracture that often occurs in bones of the feet or legs due to repetitive impact such as from running.
- A greenstick fracture is where the bone bends on one side and breaks or cracks on the other, similar to a fresh tree branch.

Respiration

Respiration refers to all the processes involved in the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide between the cells and the external environment. It includes ventilation, the diffusion of oxygen and carbon dioxide, and the transport of the gases in the blood. Cellular respiration deals with the cell's utilization of oxygen and release of carbon dioxide in its metabolism.

TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

The risk of untreated hearing loss

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Hearing loss can lead to a number of social, emotional and mental effects if left untreated.

Local audiologist Libakiso Mabea says in order to avoid the consequences of untreated hearing loss, it is important to get a professional diagnosis and treatment plan.

She says: "A person suffering from a hearing loss might also worry that friends or family members are speaking badly behind their back and this can lead to a sense of loneliness and depression."

She says untreated hearing loss comes with a number of risks, both in terms of health and emotional wellbeing.

She also indicates that when people choose to go untreated, they

risk their relationships, careers and health.

Ms Mabea says in both adults and children with hearing loss, the social consequences of going without treatment are great. For children, she says it can come in the form of bullying or social isolation, and these factors can have a serious impact on their development as they grow up, and their self-esteem and education might suffer.

While people should be accommodating when dealing with another person's hearing loss, she says that is not always the case.

She highlights that many aspects of the human body and experience are linked to a person's senses, and when one of these senses is hindered or completely lost, can have a serious effect on how they live their lives.

Also if the problem can be



mitigated in some way, she says treatment is almost always

encouraged, appealing to all to talk to the hearing care professional if

they think they or their loved ones could benefit from hearing aids.

Lesotho receives COVID-19 experts from Wuhan

LINEO MABEKEBEKE
health@maserumetro.com

MASERU - A 10-man team of anti-COVID-19 medical experts that will assist Lesotho in the fight against the pandemic arrived in the country on Sunday from the People's Republic of China.

Presenting the medical gurus to the government, the Chinese Ambassador to Lesotho Lei Kezhong said the group came at the invitation of Prime Minister Dr Moeketsi Majoro.

The outfit's presence in Lesotho, he said is an indication of strong bilateral relations between the two countries.

Mr Kezhong said the pandemic has brought both Lesotho and China closer together as they have been working as a unit since its outbreak.

Dr Majoro said the Chinese medical specialists will work together with Lesotho front-line doctors and other health experts for the next 10 days in a bid to share their experiences, knowledge and skills relevant for Lesotho to effectively respond to the pandemic.

The group is expected to thereafter proceed to Angola which will be the 15th country



A team of COVID-19 experts from China

in Africa to receive this kind of assistance from China.

Dr Majoro expressed his gratitude to China for responding to

his request to assist Lesotho contain the virus and save people's lives.

The positive response by China, he said is a symbol of a long standing and deep friendship between the Chinese and Basotho.

"The Coronavirus specific assistance comes on top of China's deployment of eight medical specialists at the Motebang Hospital to deal with specialised cases that require skills not presently available in the country.

"The medical experts arrived at the time when Lesotho is battling with COVID-19 and is yet to achieve epidemic control, thus their assistance will be critical to refining their capacity to care for patients," he said.

For his part, the Minister of Health Moflatsi Maqelepo said Lesotho is vulnerable to the pandemic due to its social economic status as a low-middle income country.

He therefore showed that Lesotho's medical technology and resource skills do not match the needs of rapidly growing and highly contagious diseases like COVID-19.

Mr Maqelepo said the team will capacitate their human resource through training and sharing of ideas as well as experiences.

The team he further showed will visit the COVID-19 treatment centre to provide training to its personnel.

"Staff from the districts and other hospitals will receive similar training," he also said.

The team also brought along with it the seventh consignment of specialised medical equipment to be used in the fight against COVID-19.

Dignity kits provide respite to young girls

STAFF REPORTER

QUTHING - When Thembekile* who is 14 years old started menstruating, her aunt taught her how to use an old cloth during her periods. She also taught her about the right undergarment to use to avoid embarrassing leakages.

Thembekile and other girls her age in Quthing have to rely on old cloths for use during their monthly periods. Their families are too poor to afford sanitary pads.

Their plight has been made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic as most of their parents, who are usually employed on South African vegetable and fruit farms in Ceres in the Western Cape, are either back in Lesotho and not earning any income or remain in that neighbouring country without jobs.

During the start of the lockdown due to COVID-19 in March, a lot of men and women from Quthing returned to Lesotho. Almost six months after, they are still in Lesotho, without any form of income.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has partnered with the Lesotho Red Cross Society (LRCS) to support girls like Thembekile. Through funds from the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF), the UNFPA engaged LRCS as an implementing partner to distribute dignity kits to vulnerable girls and women affected by drought and COVID-19.

Thembekile's aunt, who received the dignity kit on her behalf in Qomoqomong, was happy after receiving the package.

"We have nothing. Nothing. When

we wake up we don't know where to go and what to do. My greatest challenge is that I don't only look after Thembekile whose parents have been working in Ceres on apple and onion farms, but I have my own children who have not done well in matric examinations and are idling at home," the woman says.

She adds: "Now COVID-19 has made things worse."

She wishes there could be dams around the village to harness water and lessen the effects of drought.

Besides the dignity kit, she was also grateful for the advice offered by an official from the Child and Gender Protection Unit (CGPU) during the handing over of the dignity kits.

"It is difficult for some of us to talk to our children about issues relating to sex, child marriage and other children's rights. So we are happy that the girls were advised on these issues today."

During the handing over ceremony of the dignity kits earlier this month, Woman Police Constable Lirontso Shale highlighted the girls, and women present at the occasion on their human rights, Gender Based Violence (GBV), especially during the lockdown, the different types of GBV and how they can be affected as young girls.

She encouraged the girls to report gender based violence, explaining that early sexual debut leads to unwanted pregnancies, transmissible diseases and illegal abortions.

Shale added: "Anyone below the age of 16 is not supposed to engage in sex. It is an offence to do so."

She also warned them against child marriage and its repercussions.

"No matter the kind of problems you have, marriage is not a solution. The solution is getting an education," she said.

According to the Principal of Qomoqomong Primary School, some young girls often miss school when they have their monthly periods to avoid embarrassment.

The principal was equally happy that the dignity kit contained, among others, two undergarments.

"Due to embarrassment, sometimes the girls are unable to participate in sports activities or they end up borrowing each other's underwear. This we ultimately know because when there is a conflict, these things come out and end up being known by many at the school, causing more embarrassment," she also said.

A Red Cross Volunteer Ms 'Marelebohile Ntsukunyane who has been distributing the dignity kits in Quthing says many young girls in the district live on their own as their parents work in Ceres.

"There is therefore a lot of sexual assault directed at these girls," Ms Ntsukunyane said.

Most of all, she said they have discovered that many of them are destitute.

"When we were in Sixondo, we had to share the contents of the dignity kits. We could not just leave some of the girls that were there without giving them anything, considering how needy they looked," she further showed.

The dignity kits have been distributed in Quthing, Mokhotlong, Maseru, Mafeteng and Mhale's Hoek to 500 young girls and young



Her Royal Highness Princess Senate Mohato Seeiso

women.

The programme was launched at the Royal Palace in Maseru, where 10 girls who were selected as representatives of a bigger group of 2 500 received the dignity kits, handed over by the UNFPA Representative to Lesotho Dr Marc Derveeuw to Her Royal Highness Princess Senate Mohato Seeiso who officially received them on behalf of the girls.

Speaking at the occasion, Dr Derveeuw reaffirmed that UNFPA would continue focusing on the situation of women and girls in

Lesotho.

He emphasised the need for menstrual health to be in the development agenda, adding that the dignity kits contained items for women and girls to preserve their dignity, especially in times of crisis like the COVID-19 when these items do not get priority at household level.

For part, Princess Senate called for all concerned to continue fighting for women and girls against gender based violence.

"On behalf of my peers, young women and girls that bear the brunt of victimisation through gender-based violence, we wish to sincerely implore all concerned to continue fighting for us. We need and deserve a safe country in which we can live in peace," she added.

UNFPA received COVID-19 funds in January to respond to social protection issues arising in communities that have been hard hit by the El Nino induced drought that was declared by the government in November 2019.

Through this project, the UNFPA is working with World Vision on prevention of child marriage and provision of Psycho-social support to drought affected communities and also with Gender Links on Protection and Gender Based Violence mainstreaming as well as engagement of men and boys in the fight against GBV in Emergencies.

With the LRCS, focus is on continuity of Essential Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights during emergencies.

For UNFPA, the distribution of dignity kits helps women and girls maintain their dignity during humanitarian crises. Preserving dignity is essential to maintaining self-esteem and confidence, which is important to cope in stressful and potentially overwhelming humanitarian situations.

Supporting women's self-esteem and confidence also assists them in providing care and protection to their children.

For 2020, UNFPA had planned to reach an estimated 48 million women, girls and young people, including 4 million pregnant women, in 57 countries.

*Not her real name



One of the recipients of the dignity kits

AHIC 2020: Dubai tourism chief predicts full recovery

Helal Saeed Almarri, director general of the Dubai Department of Tourism & Commerce Marketing, has said he expects to see no long-term damage to the tourism sector in the emirate in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Speaking during AHIC on the Road, a revamped hospitality showcase taking place across the emirate this week, he said prospects were improving for 2021.

He explained: "We do not see any long-term impact on the travel and tourism sector here in Dubai.

"Post Covid-19 we are expecting a spike in demand, as people take holidays they have already booked, and then we will re-evaluate our longer-term targets.

"We are currently planning on a six, 12- and 18-month basis horizon, but we will re-evaluate our strategy once we see a new floor to bookings post-Covid-19."

He added: "Encouragingly, we are seeing a change in behaviour now, with searches for booking returning to around 75 per cent of their previous levels during September.

"Emirates Airline is also now offering around 94 destinations, which is obviously very positive for us.

"We can see growth continuing – and we do see a clear path ahead of us in the long-term."

However, Saeed Almarri did acknowledge bookings for August



Helal Saeed Almarri

this year stood at below 20 per cent of the figures recorded for the same month last year, highlighting the work that remains to be done.

Turning his attention to the MICE market, Saeed Almarri said COVID-19 may ultimately benefit business travel in the emirate.

"Dubai is a MICE hub, and we have to look at the impact of COVID-19 from two angles.

"This year, as we re-open tourism, we looked at what precautionary measures had to be taken to host events, and we have put those in place.

"People want to meet together, and you can do so under COVID-19 restrictions, we have proved that.

"Post-COVID-19, I do not see much change in the Dubai market.

"Certainly, industries that have been hit by the economic side of this pandemic will retract marketing spend and budgets will fall – we will have to deal with that.

"But as Dubai, we look at this from a long-term perspective, and the events we have booked for quarter one of next year are strong.

"We expect the market to come back over the next 12-months, with Dubai winning even more events because of what we have demonstrated over recent months.

"With Expo 2020 coming next year, we are going to be in a strong position to lead the industry," he said.

Recipe Of The Week

Beef and Vegetable Stir-fry

Ingredients

3 tbsp reduced-sodium soy sauce
1 tbsp brown sugar
2 tsp grated fresh ginger
1 tbsp cornstarch
½ cup water, divided
Nonstick cooking spray
2 tsp canola oil, divided
1 lb beef sirloin steak, boneless, cut across grain into ¼-inch strips
½ cup sliced onion
½ cup sliced celery
2 cups sliced mushrooms
½ cup thinly sliced carrots
2 cups broccoli florets, cut in half
2 cups asparagus, cut into 2-inch lengths
2 cups fresh spinach leaves
1 ¼ cups brown rice, cooked according to directions without salt or fat

Method

In a small bowl combine soy sauce, brown sugar, ginger, cornstarch,

and ½ cup water. Set aside.

Spray a large skillet or wok with nonstick cooking spray. Place the skillet over medium-high heat and add 1 tsp canola oil. When hot, add beef strips and stir-fry 4 to 5 minutes or until beef is cooked through. Remove beef from skillet. Set aside.

Add remaining canola oil. When hot, add onion and celery. Stir-fry 1 to 2 minutes.

Add mushrooms and stir-fry 2 minutes.

Add carrots, broccoli, asparagus, and ¼ cup water. Cover. Cook 3 to 4 minutes.

Add spinach and cook 2 more minutes or until vegetables are tender.

Add beef strips along with soy sauce mixture. Stir and cook 1 to 2 minutes until liquid thickens and stir-fry mixture is heated through. Serve over hot rice. Makes 4 servings.



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Tributes to family and friends

Toots Hibbert

Toots Hibbert, beloved reggae star dies at 77

DIED, 77, Toots Hibbert, one of reggae's founders and most beloved stars who gave the music its name and later helped make it an international movement through such classics as "Pressure Drop," "Monkey Man" and "Funky Kingston," died earlier this month at a hospital in Kingston, Jamaica from suspected COVID-19 related complications.

Hibbert, who was a front-man of the famous reggae band Toots & the Maytals, had been in a medically-induced coma at the University Hospital of the West Indies in Kingston since earlier this month.

He was admitted in intensive care after complaints of having breathing difficulties according to his publicist.

It was revealed in local media that the singer was awaiting results from a COVID-19 test after showing symptoms.

News of the five-time Grammy nominee's ill-health came just weeks after his last known performance, on a national live-stream during Jamaica's Emancipation and Independence celebrations in August.

A family statement said Hibbert died on September 11 surrounded by family.

Ziggy Marley, son of Bob Marley, tweeted about the death saying he spoke with Hibbert a few weeks ago and, "Told him how much I loved him we laughed & shared our mutual respect," adding, "He was a father figure to me."

A muscular ex-boxer, Hibbert was a bandleader, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and showman whose concerts sometimes ended with dozens of audience members dancing with him on stage.

He was also, in the opinion of many, reggae's greatest singer, so deeply spiritual he could transform "Do re mi fa so la ti do" into a hymn.

His raspy tenor, uncommonly warm and rough, was likened to the voice of Otis Redding and made him more accessible to American listeners than many reggae artists.

Original songs such as "Funky Kingston" and "54-46 That's My Number" had the emotion and call and response arrangements known to soul and gospel fans.

Hibbert even recorded an album of American hits, "Toots In Memphis," which came out in 1988.

Never as immersed in politics as his friend and great contemporary Bob Marley, Hibbert did invoke heavenly justice in "Pressure Drop," preach peace in "Revolution," righteousness in "Bam Bam" and scorn his 1960s drug arrest and imprisonment in "54-46 That's My Number."

He also captured, like few others, everyday life in Jamaica in the years following its independence from Britain in 1962, whether telling of wedding jitters ("Sweet and Dandy") or of trying to pay the rent ("Time Tough").

One of his most popular and surprising songs was his reworking of John Denver's nostalgic "Take

Me Home) Country Roads," with the setting changed from West Virginia to a world Hibbert knew so well.

As with other reggae stars, Hibbert's following soared after the release of the landmark 1972 film, "The Harder They Come," which starred Jimmy Cliff as a poor Jamaican who moves to Kingston and dreams of a career in music.

The Jamaican production was a word of mouth hit in the U.S. and the soundtrack, often ranked among the greatest in movie history, included the Maytals' "Pressure Drop" and "Sweet and Dandy."

Hibbert also appeared in the film, as himself, recording "Sweet and Dandy" in the studio while Cliff's character looks on with awe.

Around the same time, the Maytals signed with Island Records and released the acclaimed album "Funky Kingston," which the critic Lester Bangs called "the most exciting and diversified set of reggae tunes by a single artist yet released." (The album would eventually come out in two different versions).

By the mid-1970s, Keith Richards, John Lennon, Eric Clapton and countless other rock stars had become reggae fans and Hibbert would eventually record with some of them. A tribute album from 2004, the Grammy winning "True Love," included cameos by Richards, Bonnie Raitt, Ryan Adams and Jeff Beck. Hibbert also was the subject of a 2011 BBC documentary, "Reggae Got Soul," with Clapton, Richards and Willie Nelson among the commentators.

A guest appearance on "Saturday Night Live" in 2004 brought Hibbert an unexpected admirer, the show's guest host, Donald Trump, who in his book "Think Like a Billionaire" recalled hearing the Maytals rehearse: "My daughter Ivanka had told me how great they were, and she was right. The music relaxed me, and surprisingly, I was not nervous."

The Maytals originally were a vocal trio featuring Hibbert, Henry "Raleigh" Gordon and Nathaniel "Jerry" Mathias, with the group later adding such instrumentalists as bassist Jackie Jackson and drummer Paul Douglas. They broke up in the early 1980s, but the following decade Hibbert began working with a new lineup of Maytals.

Hibbert's career was halted in 2013 after he sustained a head injury from a vodka bottle thrown during a concert in Richmond, Virginia, and suffered from headaches and depression.

But by the end of the decade he was performing again and in 2020 he released another album, "Got To Be Tough," which included contributions from Ziggy Marley and Ringo Starr, whose son, Zak Starkey, served as co-producer.

Grammy nominations for Hibbert included best reggae album of 2012 for "Reggae Got Soul" and best reggae album of 2007 for "Light Your Light."



Hibbert was ranked No. 71 on a Rolling Stone list, compiled in 2008, of the 100 greatest contemporary singers.

In 2012, he received the Order of Distinction by the government of Jamaica for outstanding contribution to the country's music.

Married to his wife, Doreen, for nearly 40 years, Hibbert had eight children, including the reggae performers Junior Hibbert and Leba Hibbert.

Frederick Nathaniel Hibbert ("Toots" was a childhood nickname) was born in May Pen, Parish of Clarendon. He was the son of Seventh-day Adventist ministers and would remember miles-long walks along dirt roads to schools, hours of singing in church and private moments listening to such American stars on the radio as Ray Charles and Elvis Presley.

By adolescence, his parents had died and he had moved to Trench Town in Kingston, where the local music scene was thriving, moving from street parties to recording studios and drawing such future stars as Bob Marley and Desmond Dekker.

He formed the Maytals, named for his hometown, with fellow singers Matthias and Gordon, started working with Jamaican record producer Coxsone Dodd and quickly became the star of the national festival competition that started in 1966.

The Maytals (eventually renamed Toots & the Maytals) won in the inaugural year with "Bam Bam," prevailed in 1969 with "Sweet and Dandy" and 1972 with "Pomp and Pride." Hibbert would joke that he thought it best to start skipping the festival because winning came so easily, although he returned in 2020

with the bright, inspirational "Rise Up Jamaica."

The Maytals began when ska was the most popular music, continued to rise during the transition to the slowed down rocksteady and were at the very forefront of the faster, more danceable sound of the late '60s.

Their up-tempo chant "Do the Reggay" is widely recognised as the song, which gave reggae its name, even if the honor was unintended.

"If a girl didn't look so nice or she wasn't dressed properly, we used to say she was streggay. I was playing one day and I don't know why but I started singing: 'Do the reggay, do the reggay' – it just stuck," he told the Daily Star in 2012. "I might have stuck with calling it streggay if I'd thought longer. That'd be something – everyone dancing to streggay music."

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COMPANY NOTICE

Notice of Dissolution

First Print IT (PTY) Ltd

Reg.No.12012/286

Notice of Dissolution of First Print IT (PTY) Ltd (In terms of section 164 of the companies Act No.18 of 2011) Incorporated on 28th day of February 2012.

- Kindly take notice that by this notice the Company notifies the Master of the High Court and Registrar of Companies of the Voluntary Winding up of the Company.
- Take further notice that, the Voluntary Winding up was approved by the Shareholders on the 16th day of July 2020.
- Further that the approval by the Shareholders to the Voluntary Winding Up is hereunder attached.
- Take further notice that the particulars of Liquidator are as follows:
 Attorney Tiisetso Sello-Mafatle
 c/o Sello-Mafatle Attorneys
 Marie Sello Office Park
 Maseru West
 P/Bag A104
 Maseru
 Telephone: (+266)2231 7748
 Email: admin@sellomafatle.com
 >bthai@thabure.com

- All persons having claims against the Company may submit them to the above address and such claims shall be in terms of section 167(3) of the Companies Act No.18 of 2011, and include the following:
 -Reason for the claim including proof thereof
 -The transaction that led to the current claim
 -Name of the claimant including telephone numbers and email address
- The deadline for receiving the claims by the Company will be the 31st day of August, 2020.
- Take Notice that the claim may be barred if not received by the deadline.
- Take further notice that a claim against the company shall be barred unless proceedings to enforce the claim are commenced within one year after the last publication of the notice.

DATED AT MASERU ON THIS 23RD DAY OF JULY, 2020.

COMPANY NOTICE
Notice of appointment of Liquidator
First Print IT (Pty) Ltd

Reg.No.12012/286

1. Kindly Take Notice that Tiisetso Sello-Mafatle

(Attorney) has appointed as the Liquidator.

- Take further notice that the details of the Liquidator are as follows:
 Tiisetso Sello-Mafatle (Attorney)
 c/o Sello-Mafatle Attorneys
 Marie Sello Office Park
 Maseru West
 P/Bag A104
 Maseru
 Telephone: (+266)2231 7748
 Email: admin@sellomafatle.com
 >bthai@thabure.com
- Take further Notice that the Liquidation proceedings start on the 31st day of July, 2020.
- All persons having claims against the company may submit them to the above address and such claims shall be in terms of section 167(3) of the Companies Act No.18. of 2011, and include the following:
 -Reason for the claim including proof thereof
 -The transaction that led to the current claim
 -Name of the claimant including telephone numbers and email address
- The deadlines for receiving the claims by the Company will be the 31st day of August 2020.
- Take notice that the claim may be barred if not received by the deadline.
- Take further notice that a claim against the company shall be barred unless proceedings to enforce the claim are commenced within one year after the last publication of the notice.
- Take further notice that the Liquidation and Distribution Accounts shall be available at the offices of the Master of High Court and Registrar.
- Any objections to this voluntary windings up should lodged with substantiating reasons to:
ADDRESS: Registrar of Companies
 Ministry of Trade and Industry P.O.Box 33
 Maseru 100
ADDRESS: The Master of High Court
 Sun Gardens
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Sello-Mafatle Attorneys
 c/o Attorneys Tiisetso Sello-Mafatle
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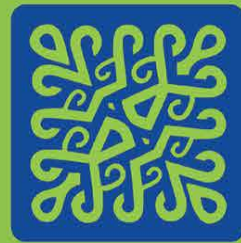
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Picking the best fuel station can save you money and help your vehicle run better. We

analyzed and compared fuel station chains to help you pick the best one for your car - and your wallet.

Vehicle electrification may be on the rise, but EV's won't be knocking internal-combustion cars and trucks off their perch anytime soon (especially with startlingly low fuel prices as of late). Until that transition happens, the majority of motorists will remain beholden to the network of gasoline stations across the world to keep our cars, trucks and SUVs running.

It's fair to say that most motorists probably don't give much thought to the quality of a fuel station unless it stands out as either significantly better than the average or upsettingly terrible. After all, you're just making a quick pit stop for fuel and coffee, right? Why go out of your way? The fact is, all those short trips add up over time, and the quality of your local fill-up spot not only has an effect on your car, but your personal satisfaction, too.

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fuel tank, those standards still don't necessarily mean you're being offered the best fuel. That's where Top-Tier gas comes in. Top-Tier-rated gasoline contains a concentration of added detergents

that are higher than the minimum amount specified by the EPA. This can result in a cleaner engine and overall improved performance, both in terms of output and fuel economy.

Citroen C5 Aircross review

... Plug-in hybrid crossover tested

The first of MANY Citroen plug-in hybrids, with the brand's entire range set to be electrified in some form by 2025.

This first one is based on the C5 Aircross, a five-seat crossover that sits on the same platform as the rather good Peugeot 3008 and ever so slightly less good Vauxhall Grandland and DS 7.

How much does it cost, and what's the spec?

To keep the price down Citroen has stuck with front-wheel drive (the DS7 and 3008 are available with a more expensive version of this drivetrain that uses a second e-motor to power the rear axle). You're looking at £35,370 - a little less than you'd pay for a 3008, but a bit more than a Ford Kuga PHEV.

CO2 emissions of 32g/km mean you won't pay much tax. Company car drivers get the most benefit - a BIK rate of ten per cent means a top-rate taxpayer could save as much as £270 per month versus the top-spec C5 petrol.

Under the bonnet a 108bhp e-motor supplements the 178bhp 1.6-litre four-cylinder engine, giving a combined 222bhp and 0-62mph in a respectable 8.7 seconds. The battery is 13.2kWh, so claimed electric range is 34 miles at speeds of up to 84mph, and charging takes two hours on a 7kW wallbox or seven hours on a three-pin plug.

So how far will it actually go on a charge?

Like all PHEVs the C5's modus operandi is to use its battery before bringing the internal combustion engine into play, but you can choose to save some or all of your charge until later.

For test one I stuck the Aircross in 'Hybrid' mode (where it trades petrol and electric power for peak efficiency) and drove 56 miles cross-country. Having set off with a



full battery, it managed 53 per cent of the journey, just under 30 miles, on e-power. After charging back up to 100 per cent I stuck it in 'Electric' mode (where the engine is entirely shut down) and drove until I heard the four-cylinder motor spring into life. I managed 25 miles, mainly on fast flowing A- and B-roads. These are decent numbers.

What's it like in Electric mode?

Good. The C5 Aircross is a rarity insofar as it's a modern car with zero sporting pretensions. Sure it has a Sport mode, but it's only there to summon max power from the drivetrain for overtaking or merging onto a dual carriageway from one of those teeny tiny slip roads, not for enjoying a spirited drive along your favourite ribbon of tarmac.

No, the C5 Aircross is all about comfort - it has flat, squidgy armchairs for front seats and clever hydraulic dampers for a pillowy ride. And electric drive is a component of this comfort, says Citroen. The silence, smooth and uninterrupted



power delivery, lack of vibration and, presumably, smug sense of self-satisfaction one usually gets from driving an EV.

Sure enough in EV mode the C5 is very quiet and very smooth, though you may notice a few pulses in the power delivery as the eight-speed auto sorts itself out. There is regen-braking, with a 'B' mode for the transmission that harvests as much energy as it can when you're braking or coasting. The brakes themselves are a bit springy and grabby at low-speeds, such is the hybrid way.

It's not immediately obvious the engine's started unless you really clog it, which you won't need to do very often because there's more than enough low-down. Most of the time it fires up quietly and without any vibration through the steering wheel, pedals or seat. Usually this happens at speed, so what little noise it makes is masked by wind and tyre-roar.

When you're low on e-juice the engine is on more of the time, obviously. But the C5 is good at shutting it off as often as it can - when you're braking or coasting up

to a junction, stopped at the lights or even pulling away from a standstill.

How does it handle?

As I said - not sportily. Finesse your inputs and you can make swift progress in the Aircross PHEV, but this car is far happier tooting along than it is haring. It's a bit heavier than the standard car because of the batteries so isn't quite as agile. It rolls through the bends and pitches on its soft suspension. Those clever dampers are great most of the time, but don't particularly enjoy sharp surface imperfections, which can send a crack up through the body. Still, it's a nice thing to spend time in and a largely comfortable companion - great on the motorway, even if the body floats around a bit.

And is the boot full of batteries?

Nope. The EMP2 platform that underpins this, the Pug 3008 and others is an impressive one. The batteries and e-motor are hidden away, so you get just as much cabin- and boot-space as you do in the ICE car. Handy slot for your charge cable under the boot floor, too, so it doesn't get in the way. Click here to read our full Citroen C5 Aircross review, which goes into more detail about the interior.

The C5 Aircross Hybrid looks pretty much identical to the normal car save for the 'Hybrid' badges and (optional) blue details.

Should I buy one?

Think about it, if you're in the market for a PHEV, because it's a pretty good one. Citroen will throw in a wallbox and six months access to the Polar public charging network to sweeten the deal, but more generally whether a PHEV is right for you still depends on your lifestyle. How long is your commute?

Do you have a driveway? Is it a company car or are you buying with your own money?

Honda Civic Type R review



...madcap Limited Edition driven

Not sure I've seen a Civic that colour before...

If you have, it was two entire decades ago and on the EK9 Civic Type R. Aka the first-gen of Honda's hot hatchback which never came to Britain. At least not officially.

Its trademark colour, Sunlight Yellow, is your only option on this new, Limited Edition version of the FK8 Civic Type R. Aka the fifth-gen of Honda's hot hatchback which we do get in Britain, mercifully.

What's special here? Paint and a plaque?

Well, yes. But so much more. And so much less. This is Honda playing Renault Sport at the stripped-out special game it's mastered since the majestic Megane R26.R. So you're looking at a Civic that's lost 47kg while gaining about £5,000.

It costs a slightly breath-taking £39,995, but never has a stat been so irrelevant. Of the 100 Limited Editions coming to Europe, the UK's getting 20, and they all sold within an hour of the car being announced. As well as the colour, visual tweaks include a black roof, black bonnet vent and black badges.

At least someone lost weight in lockdown.



Yep, though compared to Renault's 'Ring-bashing Meganes, 47 kilos is a relatively meagre saving. All the windows stay glass, the rear seats remain and there's no carbon wheels or brakes on offer here. Its 5.8sec 0-62mph time and 169mph top speed are no different to standard.

Here's how the diet's split: reduced sound deadening (-14.3kg), removal of the air con (-10.4kg), 20in BBS forged alloys wrapped in Michelin Cup 2 tyres (-10kg), miscellaneous spec differences such as binning the parcel shelf (-6.9kg) and no stereo or touchscreen unit (-5.4kg). The latter's especially curious as it means the only 2020 Type R that doesn't get Honda's nerdy data-logging set-up is the one where its driver might want it most. The Limited Edition has, after

all, been breaking track records.

What else is new?

The Limited Edition launches with the entire Type R range's mid-life update, so there's also mild suspension tweaks (some bespoke to its BBS/Cup 2 setup), improved braking performance from new two-piece discs and a yet-more-satisfying manual gearshift thanks to a teardrop-shaped knob that recalls Type Rs of old, including the original Sunlight Yellow Civic. You also get a steering wheel rim wrapped in black and red Alcantara.

So how's this one? Mad?

In our short drive in it, absolutely. And I'd wager a lot of it's down to those Cup 2s. Our first go was limited to a dozen laps of the tight, technical Great Tew circuit

Motorsport 911s – you know every millimetre of the car's movements, even in nasty weather. I was grinning throughout each slide, not gritting my teeth.

What's it like driven, y'know, normally?

We're yet to drive the Limited Edition on road, or in drier conditions. I suspect it'll ride with the surprising suppleness of the regular Type R while gripping even more ruthlessly on a sun-blessed B-road. I reckon it'll feel spectacular.

But I don't think it'll be a better road car than standard. Losing the air con, stereo and nav – with no option to pop them back in – wounds this car's usability. A lot. And yet the rear seats have stayed.

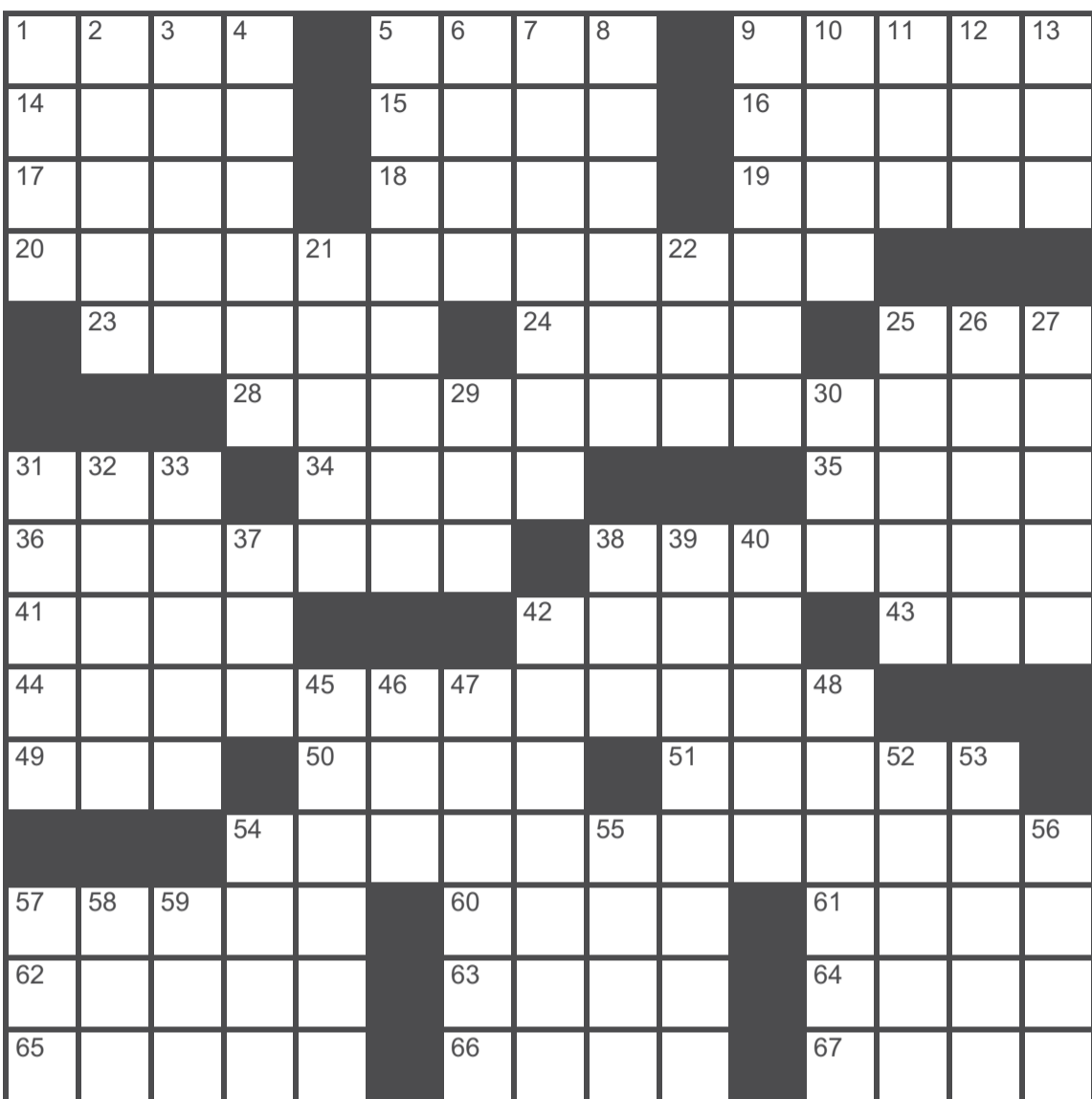
I'd have liked to see those go, too, saving more weight and indulging this car's 'special occasion' vibe more visibly. Because as it is, I reckon you'll get broadly the same experience by slotting some Cup 2s onto your regular Type R while retaining the climate and audio equipment that'll encourage a proper road trip.

Not that it matters; it's rarer than Renault's £52k Megane Trophy R and sold out in an hour, and I doubt anyone on the list will be disappointed one iota when they get their hands on the Limited Edition. Let's just hope it's not raining too biblically when they do...

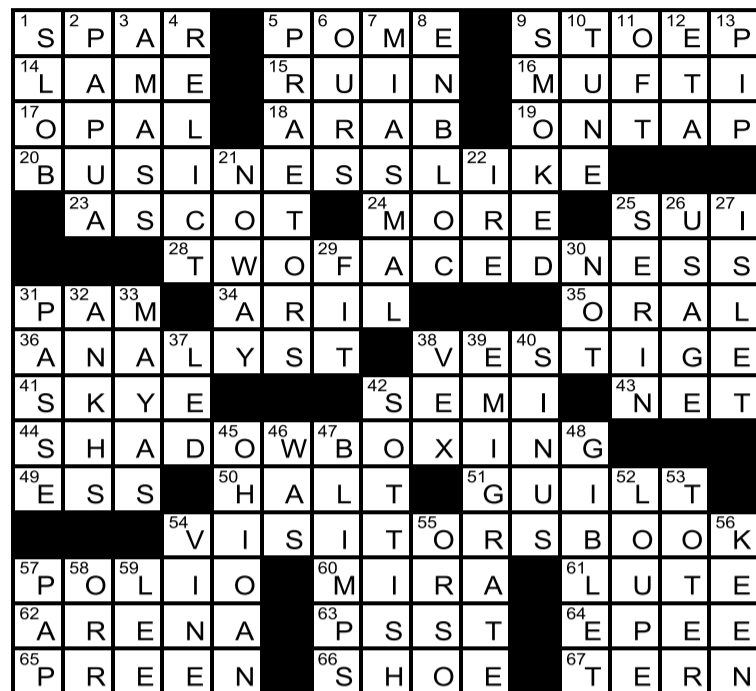
Score: 9/10



General Crosswords



Last Week's Solution



- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 13. Epitome of easiness | 40. Waste conduit |
| 21. Glad | 42. Metallic element, Re |
| 22. Advanced degree? | 45. Textile |
| 25. In progress | 46. and outs |
| 26. Banding | 47. Smother |
| 27. Sacred hymn | 48. Small canines |
| 29. Big Apple inits. | 52. Balderdash |
| 30. Rocks, to a bartender | 53. Land on the Red Sea |
| 31. Drudges | 54. Double agent |
| 32. Burgundy grape | 55. Curbside call |
| 33. With precision | 56. Campsite sight |
| 37. Landscaper's need | 57. Limit |
| 38. Burgle | 58. Took the cake? |
| 39. Mileage keeper | 59. Brouhaha |

ACROSS

1. Beauties
5. "go bragh!"
9. Rundown
14. Great Salt Lake state
15. Supernatural life force
16. Cover story?
17. Lucille, for short
18. The Panthers of the Big East
19. Come in second
20. Dogs' targets
23. Submarine detector
24. "Do others..."
25. Cleo's undoing
28. High-roller
31. Health resort
34. British tax withholding Acry.

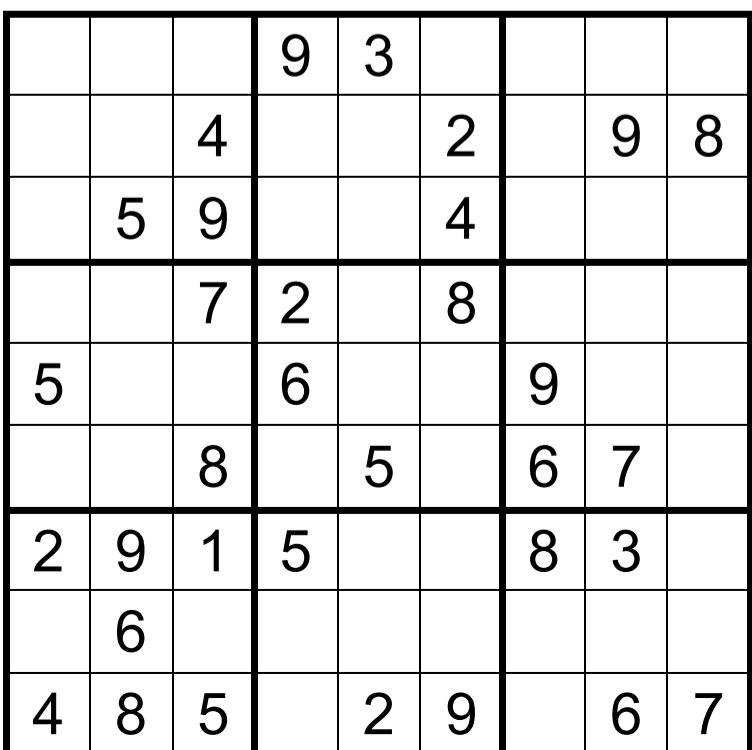
DOWN

35. Mrs. Dithers in "Blondie"
36. Not really sing
38. Perfume ingredient
41. Able to see right through
42. Was a passenger
43. Scottish cap
44. Having no privacy
49. Pigpen
50. Add to the pot
51. Substantial
54. Err
57. Noel
60. Decree
61. Kind of store
62. Lagoon surround
63. Opulence
64. Airy

DOWN

65. Woodland flycatcher
66. Arab ruler
67. Chap
1. Split
2. Purses
3. Introduction to economics?
4. Polishes
5. Celestial sphere
6. Incursion
7. Gate-crash
8. Swimming
9. Bird of prey
10. Corner pieces
11. Cloak-and-dagger org.
12. "20/20" network

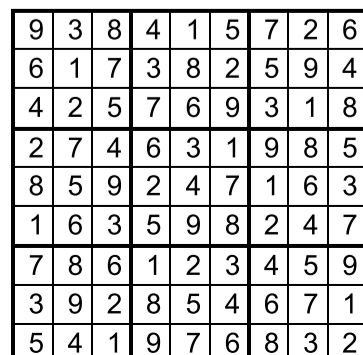
Sudoku Puzzle



Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, each column and each 3x3 square contain all the from 1-9

This is the Quick Sudoku for the solver in a hurr: target time, ten minutes.

Last Week's Solution



So You Think You are Geneius

Question (Answer next week)

James recently moved to his first brand new house. When he arrived there he discovered that the builder had forgotten something. James popped down to the local DIY shop to enquire about the prices. Luckily the items are quite cheap at the shop. 7 cost £1.00, 10 cost £2.00 and 100 cost £3.00. What had the builder forgotten and how much will 210 cost?



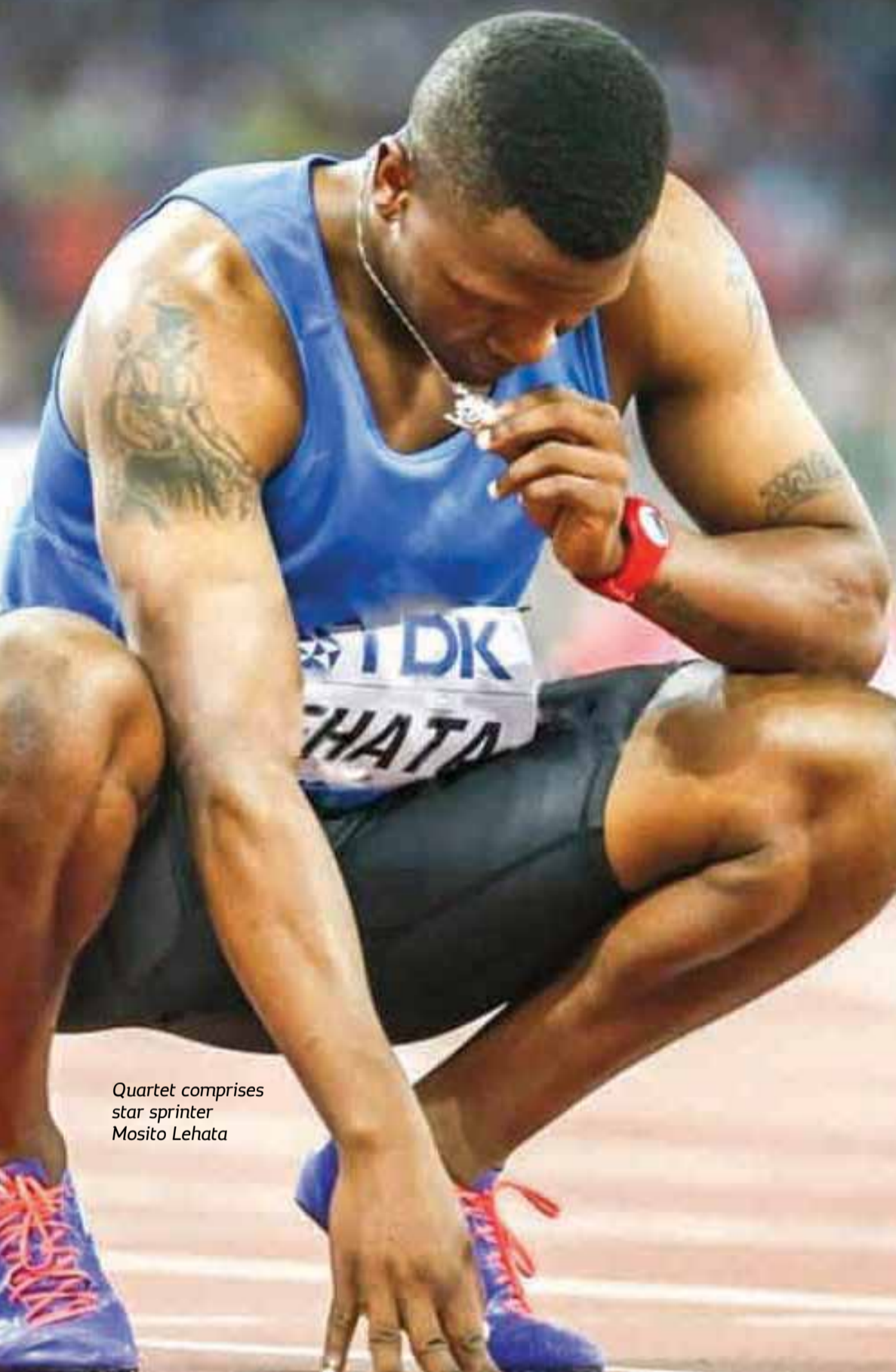
Last Week's Answer

Common words:

Ape, cap, cape, caper, carp, CARPENTER, carpet, crape, creep, crepe, crept, entrap, nap, nape, neap, pa, pace, pacer, pact, pan, pane, pant, par, pare, parent, part, partner, pat, pate, pea, peace, pear, peat, pecan, peer, pen, pence, pent, per, percent, pert, pet, peter, prance, prate, preen, rap, rapt, reap, reaper, recap, rep, repeat, repent, tap, tape, taper, tarp, trap.

All words:

Ape, aper, apt, apter, arpen, arpent, cap, cape, caper, caperer, carp, CARPENTER, carper, carpet, cep, cepe, crape, creep, crepe, crept, enrapt, entrap, epact, etape, nap, nape, neap, neep, pa, pac, pace, pacer, pact, pan, pane, pant, par, parcener, pare, parent, parer, parr, part, partner, pat, pate, paten, pater, pe, pea, peace, pean, pear, peart, pearter, peat, pec, pecan, pecten, peen, peer, pen, pence, pent, per, percent, perea, pert, perter, pet, peter, prance, prancer, prat, prate, prater, preact, precent, pree, preen, preenact, prerace, rap, rapt, reap, reaper, recap, receipt, rep, repeat, repent, retape, tap, tape, taper, taperer, tarp, tepa, trap, trepan.



Quartet comprises star sprinter Mosito Lehata

Athletes' sponsorship extended for Tokyo Olympic Games

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MASERU – The Lesotho National Olympic Committee has extended its sponsorship contract with four top local athletes in a bid to give them enough room to prepare for the Tokyo Olympic Games postponed to 2021.

The quartet comprises star sprinter Mosito Lehata, long and triple jump specialist Lerato Sechele, marathoner Seutloali Khoarahlana and middle-distance runner Tšepang Sello.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) decided to reschedule the 2020 Tokyo Olympics Games to 2021 due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic that has among others had a devastating impact on the global athletes' preparations for the games.

The IOC President,

Thomas Bach and the Japanese Prime Minister Abe Shinzo concluded that the games must be rescheduled to a date beyond 2020 but not later than the summer of 2021.

The move was meant to ensure the safety of the athletes and everyone else involved in the international sporting event.

The spokesperson of the Federation of Athletics Lesotho (FAL) Sejanamane Maphathe said LNOC extended the four athletes' contracts to allow them time to prepare for the rescheduled games.

"This means that they will still get their monthly allowances and be able to train as part of getting ready for the Tokyo Olympic Games," he said.

Sello is currently in South Africa where she is based at the High Performance Centre, while the other three are still in Lesotho.

Facilitator content with coaches' fresher course

MASERU – The Lesotho Football Association (LeFA)'s facilitator coach Lehlohonolo Thotanyane has shown full satisfaction at the outcome of the four-day training course that was held for local coaches at the Bambatha Tšita Sports Arena this week.

According to Thotanyane, the workshop that ended on Thursday was aimed at revitalising Premier League and A Division coaches before the 2020/2021 football season commences.

The course content, he said entailed education on COVID-19, the realities and myths surrounding the pandemic, living and working under

the pandemic and as well as means to manage it.

He said this was the first time that both coaches from different divisions attended the same course at the same time.

"This is an advantage as the A Division is a feeder league to the Premier League and closing the gap between the two divisions will benefit local football in a meaningful way," he said.

The 36 participants drawn from teams from across the country were also trained on issues such as playing in line, quick transitions or compacting spaces in preparation for the new season.



LeFA's facilitator coach Lehlohonolo Thotanyane

News in Sports

Two days after successfully holding a four-day refresher workshop for Premier League and A Division coaches, the Lesotho Football Association (LeFA) Technical Department is now hosting a four-day refresher course for the Women Soccer League and all the national teams' coaches this week. Meanwhile, the women's senior national team Mehalalitoe on Monday underwent COVID-19 awareness training at the National COVID-19 Secretariat (NACOSEC) offices in Maseru.

Lioli FC have appointed Ntsheng Moses Tshabalala as their head coach for one season. Tshabalala is a South African national who hails from Bloemfontein and holds a CAF B license coaching qualification with a vast coaching experience. He takes over from Morena Ramorebodi, who is also from South Africa. The 57-year-old Tshabalala was with the Botha-Bothe Premier League side, Lifofane FC before joining Tse-Nala. Lioli have also extended Tsele Rankhasa's contract by two years ahead of the 2020/2021 season.

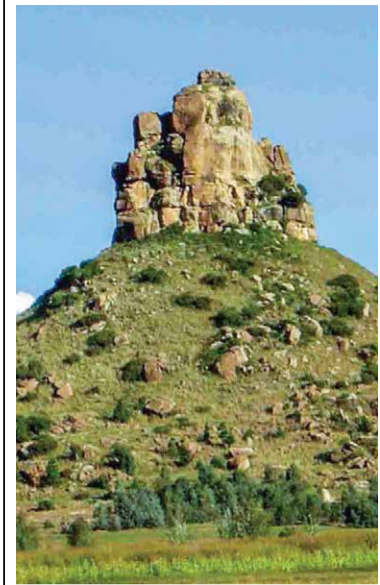
Six months after resolving to prohibit sports activities in Lesotho due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Prime Minister Dr Mœketsi Majoro on Sunday

gave all outdoor sport activities the green light to resume, with a maximum of 100 people allowed at the sport field at a time. This follows a resolution made recently by NACOSEC and the Lesotho Sports and Recreation Commission (LSRC), which saw only non-contact sports being allowed to resume under certain guidelines.

The Lesotho National Olympic Committee (LNOC) publicist Moshoeshe Molapo (pictured) says the body is currently in a serious financial crisis, adding that they have since asked for a subvention from the Ministry of Sports to cover their administrative costs. "Our coffers are dry because our funder the International Olympic Committee (IOC)'s income generating activities have also been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic," he said. He further showed that the LNOC gets money from the IOC through the Olympic Solidarity programmes. Molapo said they have so far managed to assist nine athletes by giving each M8 000, six other athletes are currently getting full sponsorship from Olympic Solidarity. He said they have given other athletes M3 000 each to survive during the lockdown period.

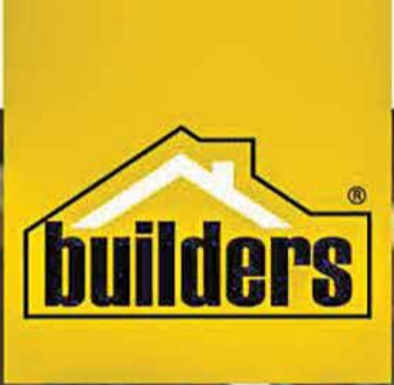


National Weather



MASERU		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	20°C / 3°C	
19°C / 9°C	SUNDAY	
	22°C / 5°C	
MAFETENG		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	13°C / 3°C	
15°C / 6°C	SUNDAY	
	15°C / 5°C	
MOHALE'S HOEK		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	13°C / -3°C	
15°C / 6°C	SUNDAY	
	15°C / 5°C	
QUTHING		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	18°C / 5°C	
20°C / 7°C	SUNDAY	
	21°C / 5°C	
QACHA'S NEK		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	13°C / 5°C	
14°C / 6°C	SUNDAY	
	16°C / 4°C	
THABA TSEKA		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	9°C / -1°C	
11°C / 3°C	SUNDAY	
	11°C / 1°C	
MOKHOTLONG		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	14°C / 1°C	
13°C / 4°C	SUNDAY	
	16°C / 0°C	
BUTHA BUTHE		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	13°C / 3°C	
13°C / 7°C	SUNDAY	
	14°C / 4°C	
LERIBE		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	20°C / 3°C	
19°C / 8°C	SUNDAY	
	22°C / 5°C	
BEREA		
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	14°C / 3°C	
13°C / 6°C	SUNDAY	
	16°C / 4°C	

Promotional period 15 September - 12 October 2020



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Leboela appointed new chess trainer

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MASERU – One of the top local female chess masters, Maboloko Leboela has been appointed as a senior trainer at the Monafils Institute for Chess Excellence (MICE).

According to a statement released by MICE, Leboela who is a Woman Candidate Master (WCM) brings with her vast experience in international chess competition after representing Lesotho in a number of Chess Olympiads.

Among others, she represented the country in Chess Olympiads held in Norway in 2014, Barcu in 2016 and Batumi, Georgia in 2018.

“She also brings the much needed diversity to the team as a female trainer. She was recently appointed as the Secretary of the Women in Chess Committee in Southern Africa (Zone 4.5). We congratulate her for the appointment and hope her role with us will also help her achieve her own goal, which is to promote women’s chess in Lesotho,” part of the statement reads.

In an interview with Metro, MICE founder and Senior Trainer Mphetole Mona confirmed Leboela’s appointment, highlighting that she is joining the institute for the first time.

“She is new in the institute but her presence adds value and brings up the number of MICE Trainers to three,” he said.

The third Senior Trainer at MICE is Seabata Fusi.

For her part, Leboela said she is happy for her new role at MICE adding that she plans to motivate other women to join the sport.

“I am truly grateful for the appointment and the position is going to help me motivate other women to play chess,” she said.

This is her second coaching appointment after she mentored the Seleso Primary School chess team when she finished her high school education in 2015.



Chess Woman Candidate Master Maboloko Leboela

Chess is a global game, which promotes fairness, inclusion, and mutual respect.

It also offers important opportunities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, including strengthening education, realising gender equality and

the empowerment of women and girls and fostering inclusion, tolerance, mutual understanding and respect.

MICE is a chess institute founded by Mona in September 2019 and the institute is financially sponsored by its trainers.

It is a chess academy which intends to

be a leader in promoting chess as a vehicle for enhancing education of children, as well as being a leader in promoting women’s chess while also supporting and promoting competitive chess for the youth. It offers classes for beginners and intermediate players.

Date set for PLMC elective AGM

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MASERU – The Premier League Management Committee (PLMC) will hold its elective annual general meeting on October 23 at a venue yet to be announced.

A circular released by PLMC invites two people per premier league club including the President and Secretary General.

The PLMC has compiled guidelines for the AGM which include among others the nomination of delegates to be done in a way that the delegates’ names will be forwarded to the PLMC no later than 2pm on October 16.

Delegates that the clubs will nominate should be members of the nominating clubs as per the current 2020/2021 season as submitted in the club licensing application.

PLMC states that each club shall nominate one candidate for the available positions in the Premier League Management Committee and no club shall have two representatives in the PLMC.

“In the event that there are disputes emanating from the nomination of either

delegates or candidates from clubs, the PLMC shall request signed minutes of the club where the nominations were resolved and adopted by such club,” the statement reads.

It further shows that the agenda of the AGM will be circulated prior to the meeting.

The procedure is that voting shall be done by way of a secret ballot on issues of election of members to the PLMC and six positions are to be contested for.

Portfolios to be contested for include Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary General, Vice Secretary General, Communication and Marketing Manager and a member.

PLMC publicist Moeketsi Ramakatsa said LeFA rules allow a PLMC club member to contest for elections as many times as possible as it does not restrict how many terms a member should serve in the committee.

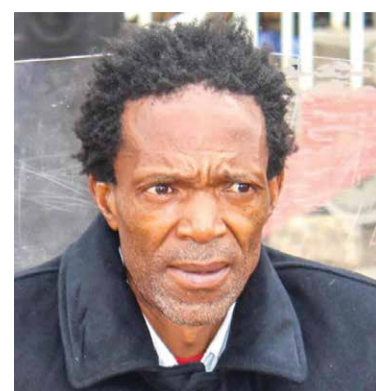
“All the 2020/2021 season registered premier league clubs are expected to attend this meeting. We have a total of 16 teams including the two newly promoted clubs - Manonyane and CCX FC,” he added.

PLMC is currently under the tutelage of former Matlama FC President, Ikarabelle Sello.



PLMC-spokesperson-Moeketsi-Ramakatsa

One of the most decorated local coaches - Majoro



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MASERU – For most footballers, to finally hang up their soccer boots when the playing days are over is a nightmare that takes ages to recover from.

This is because to the footballer, playing the beloved sport is an integral part of their life and it comes as easy as breathing.

Therefore the thought of sitting back and watching others play never sits well with any player worth his salt.

But it came as a blessing in disguise when former Likuena and Matlama FC star playmaker Motlalepula 'Maradona' Majoro officially stopped playing competitive football.

The diminutive but formidable attacking midfielder received a phone call that would change his life forever.

He was given an offer for a coaching job in the richest country in the world, the United States of America (USA).

Born on May 12, 1968 in Lekokoaneng, Ha Sakoane in the Berea district, Majoro's illustrious football journey began at the age of eight when he played for his junior home side Limamarela FC.

Although his late parents Monyetla and 'Mathabang' Majoro always knew that their sixth child was a gifted football player, it however, never occurred to them that he would one day command so much power and respect on and off the field of play.

Coming from a footballing family, when the young Majoro was busy dribbling his peers around in the C team, his two elder brothers Marasi and Thabang played for the A team.

Majoro was so good that nothing stopped him from joining Limamarela's A team at only 13 years old. At the time he was a pupil at Lekokoaneng Primary School where he also made a name for himself as a young dribbling wizard.

When he completed his Standard 7, the industrious Majoro went to Lesotho High School to do his Junior Certificate (JC) and Cambridge Overseas School Certificate (COSC).

While at Lesotho High School in 1982, he was invited by Lehlohonolo Mokoena to join Matlama FC's development side better known as Bafana ba Matlama.

He played in the development team until 1985 when he was promoted to the senior side.

When he joined Tse-Putsoa, he was of course the youngest player in the squad, but his amazing dexterity on the field became legendary and that is how he acquired the moniker, Maradona, named after the famous Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona who is regarded as one of the best footballers of all time.



Diego Maradona was technically very good, his dribbling, vision and creativity, ball control and passing were phenomenal.

In the 1986 World Cup, he scored the controversial "Hand of God" goal against England, hitting the ball into the net with his hand whilst pretending to head it.

Like his namesake, Majoro was a marvel to watch. With his astounding dribbling skills, opponents dreaded facing the formidable attacking midfielder.

He created wonderful memories with the Sea-Point-based outfit until 1991 when he moved to his home town TY to join Lioli FC.

But he only remained with Tse-Nala for one season before he returned to his old club Matlama.

While he was with Lioli in 1992, Majoro had his first call up to the senior national team Likuena under the stewardship of the late Styles Phumo.

He was made Vice Captain, deputising the team's Skipper and goalkeeper Thabane Sutu who at the time plied his trade in Egypt. After he completed his high school education, Majoro worked for eight years at the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) and during that period he studied through correspondence for a Diploma in Human Resources Management with the Cambridge Tutorial College in the United Kingdom.

After he rejoined Matlama FC, Majoro sustained a serious knee injury but no one was willing to help him get proper surgery.

He ended up approaching the former President of the Lesotho Football Association (LeFA), the late Thabo Makakole who helped him in the best way he could to get a knee surgery.

Makakole was also the President of the now defunct Premier League giants, Arsenal FC 'Gunnars'.

It took Majoro 18 full months to completely recover. Upon his recovery, he joined the then unstoppable Gunnars but remained with the side for only one season.

"The knee injury kept disturbing me and eventually forced me into early retirement," he recalls.

But before his official retirement in 1998 at the age of 32, Majoro once again returned to his former club

Matlama.

"I wanted to retire at Matlama where it all started and I recall that my last match was against Linare away in Leribe," he says.

When he finally hung up his soccer boots, he formed a club called Maradona Juniors and he worked extremely hard to ensure the team's promotion to the A Division in 2000 and the Premier League in 2001.

He personally coached and financed the club. The team played in the top league in 2002.

But later that year, Majoro's offer to coach in the USA at the Soccer Incorporated Academy in Manassas, Virginia came through and he had to abandon ship to relocate to the States.

In America, he coached players aged between six and 19 while also working as a nanny due to the fact that he only coached children after school.

During his five-year spell in the US, Majoro worked for four soccer academies and a university as a coach.

Among others, he coached the Bowie State University football team for six months.

He also coached the Annandale

Boys and Girls Club (ABGC) in Annandale, Virginia and became the team's deputy director. Majoro also mentored Headfirst in Washington, DC before coaching

He returned to Lesotho in November 2007 and became Matlama's assistant coach for two months before he joined Nyenye Rovers as head coach.

In 2008, he formed the Juventude Soccer Academy through which he visited local schools to both spot talent and train young football players.

One of Lesotho's internationals Lesia Thetsane who is now based in America is a protégé of Majoro's.

Kick4Life was impressed with Majoro's initiative and approached him in 2010 and proposed a joint venture with him.

Consequently, Juventude Soccer Academy partnered with Kick4Life and Majoro coached the children with the financial assistance of Kick4Life.

At the time, the team was registered in the B Division. Majoro remained with Kick4Life for five years.

During the first season, the club failed to qualify to the A Division but



made it in the next season.

During the third season, it was promoted to the Premier League with Majoro as the head coach.

Since then, the team has been comfortable in the top league and is doing fairly well.

"Thereafter, I was engaged as a HR Manager at the African Clean Energy (ACE) factory based in Matsieng. At the time, the company sponsored Members FC of Matsieng which played in the B Division. Upon my arrival there, the company formed its own team and used my coaching skills. At the time, I was the national under-20 team head coach," Majoro says.

He later assisted the company to buy Killers FC's B Division status. Killers FC were based in Lepereng.

The new team was renamed ACE Maseru FC and played in the B Division in the first season.

During the second season, the ACE Maseru were promoted to the A Division and ended the 2019/2020 season on third position on the log.

Majoro deputised the late Bishop Molatoli who was the national Under-17 squad head coach.

Going down memory lane, Majoro recalls one of his best moments with Matlama in the Rotary Club Tournament final where Tse-Putsoa clubbed Bantu 1-0, a cross he collected and passed to Tšepo Mofelehetsi who slammed it home.

"My worst moment was my debut international match with Matlama against Macaquene FC of Mozambique in the Confederation of African Football (CAF) Champions league in 1989.

"I was the youngest in the team, and discovered that all the newspapers had published stories about me, for some reason that intimidated me and I did not perform as well as I had been expected to," he remembers.

Majoro also describes leading both Maradona Juniors FC and Kick4Life FC from B Division to the Premier League as some of the highlights of his career.

"Being disqualified by Mahlaseli FC in the B Division playoffs saw ACE Maseru failing to get promoted to the A Division during their first season in B Division was a low for me," he says.

The last academy he worked for in the US was Victoria Football Club where he mentored the Under 10 players.

Majoro is one of the most decorated local coaches. His coaching qualifications include a coaching certificate obtained from the Royal Netherlands Football Association in 2000. He has a UEFA B License from the Football Association of England obtained in 2001.

He also did Advanced Division Football Certificate with the German Olympic Committee in the same year (2001).

Majoro did a USSF E License Coaching Certificate with the United States Soccer Federation in 2003.

In 2009, he received a Youth Coaching Certificate from the Federal Republic of Germany. He has an Advanced Coaching Certificate obtained from the Federal Republic of Germany and did a CAF B License from the Confederation of African Football in 2013.

He also has a FC Barcelona Escola Soccer Clinic Certificate obtained in Zambia in 2015.