A marbled sculpture shall rise to their memory, engraved stone shall bear record of their deeds, and their remembrance shall be as lasting as the land they honoured.
It is cause for concern that we have seen the killing of police officers recently surge to over 80 and we view the killings of our members as an attempt to undermine the legitimate authority of our democratic State. The SAPS has adopted a Back to Basics approach and implemented a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary and integrated police safety plan involving all force multipliers to enhance and ensure the safety of all members, which includes visits to police stations by a management team.

As the management team of the SAPS, we acknowledge that the next six months will be critical in turning around our organisation into the one all South Africans can be proud of. We remain focused on our objectives but we also would like to urge our communities to join hands with the police in ensuring that we defeat crime. I have said in the past on other public platforms that all of us in society, from business, NGOs, CPFs, Street Committees etc. we must work as a collective unit to rid criminality from our streets and homes. This will require that all key role players must spare neither energy nor effort in our daily struggle of ensuring that there is law and order. We should work in tandem with each other to squeze the space that criminals have been exploiting in disrupting people’s lives by confronting them without hesitation.

Fellow colleagues, it is perhaps noteworthy to mention some of our success in this financial year. With regard to Operation Fiela/Reclaim, we have conducted 3 205 operations countrywide since its launch which led to 40 903 arrests. We have recovered 737 stolen vehicles, confiscated over 350 firearms and 4 590 rounds of ammunition. These successes are over and above arrests and successes achieved during day-to-day proactive and reactive policing. There are many other success stories to be told as men and women in blue continue to carry out their work with diligence.

Since October 2015 to 31 January 2016, the JCPS Cluster has been focusing on a six-pillar approach to deal with identified crimes and possibilities. These pillars include dealing with the issue of aggravated robberies, the enforcement of the Firearms Control Act, the Liquor Act, the Second Hand Goods Act and other pieces of legislation, enforcing the Firearms Control Act, the Liquor Act, dealing decisively with crimes perpetrated against women, children and people with disabilities, closing the net on people unprotected.

We labour towards achieving the goals of the National Development Plan (NDP).

As we begin the implementation of our Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) for the period 2014-2019, through the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security (JCPS) Cluster, we have decided to address certain focal points that need urgent attention. Some of the thorny issues include police killings, intensifying the rollout of Operation Fiela/Reclaim, dealing with sexual violence and combating crimes against women and children. We would like to make a heartfelt plea to all our members to prioritise these matters that have been dogging our organisation in recent times.

The Acting National Commissioner of the SAPS, Lt Gen Khomotso Phahlane, said in his welcoming address that there is law and order. We should work in tandem with each other to squeeze the space that criminals have been exploiting in disrupting people’s lives by confronting them without hesitation.

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We extend a warm welcome for the new year to the entire staff complement of our mighty organisation, the SAPS. With the benefit of hindsight, we realise that we have had notable successes in certain areas of our operations but we are also fully cognisant of the fact that there are challenges that lie ahead. We need to re dedicate ourselves to our common objective of ensuring that everybody is and feels safe in our beautiful land. We must painstakingly forge ahead in defeating the demon of crime as we labour towards achieving the goals of the National Development Plan (NDP).

As we begin the implementation of our Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) for the period 2014-2019, through the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security (JCPS) Cluster, we have decided to address certain focal points that need urgent attention. Some of the thorny issues include police killings, intensifying the rollout of Operation Fiela/Reclaim, dealing with sexual violence and combating crimes against women and children. We would like to make a heartfelt plea to all our members to prioritise these matters that have been dogging our organisation in recent times.

The Minister of Police, Mr Nathi Nhleko, told members of the public that some of the root causes of the high crime levels and violence in society, are linked to anti-developmental tendencies that are so prevalent in South Africa.

He was speaking at the opening of the Yeoville Police Station in Johannesburg, which was part of the Frontline Service Delivery (FSD) project.

“One of the major causes of crime in our country is the extent of anti-developmental mentality among ordinary people. Before 1994, police stations were seen as centres of oppression and murder. After 1994, there needed to be a mental shift from seeing police stations as oppressive to focusing on democracy and freedom,” said Mr Nhleko.

He said it was extremely important for the organisation to “activate our communities to help fight crime”. Minister Nhleko explained that it was vital to design mechanisms of fighting crime at community level to ensure that there is active participation by members of the public. He spoke out against the killing of police officials and the level of extreme violence meted out against the men and women in blue.

“The police are society and society is police. When you kill a police officer, you are killing the nation,” he said. He added that given our ratio of one police officer protecting 345 people, the murder of a police official effectively means that it leaves 345 people unprotected.

The Acting National Commissioner of the SAPS, Lt Gen Khomotso Phahlane, said in his welcoming address that at the height of the fight against crime, police members should reaffirm their commitment to serve with dedication, commitment and pride. He called on communities to share valuable information on criminal activities taking place in their communities. “We must share this information to ensure that crime does not take place in Yeoville and the country at large,” said the Acting National Commissioner. He said one of the key challenges was to deal with the waning moral fibre in society, and that the country needed moral regeneration.

“Together we must rid our streets of criminality. We need NGOs, street committees, businesses and all key stakeholders to collaborate in the fight against crime,” said Lt Gen Phahlane. He also denounced the killing of police officials saying “We’ll use everything at our disposal that is within the confines of the law ... we must not use excessive force, but that force must be proportional. We must always act within the ambit of the law.”

Lt Gen Phahlane called on police officials to follow the ‘Back to Basics’ model of policing in order to win the fight against crime. “Visibility must be a reality where proactive policing in the ambit of the law,” he said.

The Gauteng MEC for Community Safety, Sizakele Nkosinathi Mabona, said that Yeoville was one of her department’s priority areas and called for collective responsibility in fighting crime. She said that they were already implementing the new Gauteng Safety Strategy, but said successful crime fighting would not be achieved without community involvement.
**BACK TO BASICS**

**TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW**

By WO Stephen Maluleka and Ntiyiso Ngobeni

Photographs by WO Ndanduleni Nyambeni

"We do not have to wait until something goes wrong, we need to ensure proactive policing, which will boost our communities’ confidence in us”

– Lt Gen Phahlane

The SAPS is going back to basics to make sure that the citizenry feels and is safe within the parameters of the country. This emerged at The New Age Business Breakfast Briefing recently held at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg.

Speaking at the briefing under the banner: ‘Back to Basics Towards a Safer Tomorrow’, the Minister of Police, Mr Nathi Nhleko, sent out a strong message against the scourge of police killings. “We need to fight this backward mentality of the manifestation of the killing of our police officers – when you kill a police officer, you kill a nation,” said the Minister. Minister Nhleko indicated that another critical area denting the image of the SAPS is the backlog in cases due to a lack of investigating officers and emphasised that the organisation is working on turning the tables around. “We will look into what kind of intervention is needed to reverse the causes of the backlogs and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to book,” he said.

The Deputy Minister Sotyu said that the wellness of the police has to be looked into. She alluded to the boosting of morale, promotion policy, training, and assessing whether the police are able to do what is expected from them. “We need to pull in experts to benchmark with our BRICS counterparts… It is not fair to treat them (police officials) the way we are, in terms of salaries,” said the Deputy Minister. She hinted that a transformation committee who will look into the salaries of police officers, especially those in the lower ranks of fighting crime, would be formed in the new financial year.

Lt Gen Phahlane said that the SAPS is an institution that has the authority to police society and ensure that the constitution is translated into practice. “We do not have to wait until something goes wrong, we need to ensure proactive policing, which will boost our communities’ confidence in us,” he said. Lt Gen Phahlane also echoed the Minister’s sentiments that social interaction is key in the fight against crime. “We will not make it if there is no buy-in from the society… For proactive policing to happen, we need information from others, on when and what is going to happen,” he said.

The Acting National Commissioner decried police killings. “The killing of police officers hurts a lot because an attack on the police is an attack to the authority of the State,” he said. Lt Gen Phahlane added that police killings are a thorn in the flesh and that communities should rally behind the police and provide the necessary information to put perpetrators behind bars. He however assured the nation that the organisation is working around the clock to capacitate members internally, to counter the scourge. On the issue of police brutality, Lt Gen Phahlane categorically stated that the use of firearms cannot be outside the ambit of the law, but police officers should respond accordingly to the nature of the threat they are being faced with. Lt Gen Phahlane further dispelled the misconception that there is a crisis on management level. “There is no crisis at management and we are confident that management will deliver on its mandate to serve the people of this country,” he said.
MEN FOR CHANGE AND WOMEN’S NETWORK

THROW XMAS PARTY FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE

By WO Stephen Maluleka

“…you come across, shake them off. Don’t do drugs,” said Gladinw Madabandla. He further told them that he wanted to become their mentor, which is something that he never had in his upbringing. Men for Change Champion, Thabo Tlou, emphasised that the children should take care of themselves as human beings, not as orphans and, most importantly, that they should focus on education to prosper in life.

The Centre Manager, Irene Kgasi, told the POLICE magazine that in their three-year partnership with the SAPS, they had noticed a change in the children’s behavioural make-up. “Since we have partnered with the SAPS, our children are no longer delinquent, but showing signs of ambition and optimism in life and would like to thank the SAPS for their contribution,” said Irene. She further called on donors to assist with food parcels and funding to assist their helpers in the form of a stipend.

In 2015, Christmas came early for the vulnerable and orphaned children of PENG-AI-KONG shelter in Ga-Rankuwa, north of Pretoria. This was made possible by the Men for Change and Women’s Network movements of the Auxiliary and Security Management Services.

The shelter caters for more than 84 children, ranging from the ages of four to 20 years. When she spoke at the children’s Christmas party, Brigadier Sylvia Babedi of Auxiliary Management and Security Services told the less fortunate children that the South African Police Services were there to put smiles on their faces as they too deserve to celebrate as other children do during the festive season. “As the SAPS, we love children and we do not want to see them cry. We are here to give you gifts, so that you can have a Christmas feeling just like anyone else,” said Brig Babedi.

It was a marvellous day for the children who were treated like princes and princesses. They forgot the harsh realities of the life they constantly face daily and focused on playing on the jumping castle, having their faces painted and enjoying party packs as remedial solutions to their not-so-lavish lifestyles. As a token of their appreciation, the children reciprocated the good gesture from the SAPS by singing and rendering various items for the members of the SAPS.

Kabelo Mathope, a university student and a product of the PENG-AI-KONG shelter stood in front of the children and told them never to lose hope in themselves, but to respect and focus on the right side of life. “This centre made me who I am. It taught me confidence. This was a place away from home. Learn to respect your elders and stay away from bad things,” advised Kabelo Mathope.

To make the day more interesting and put matters into perspective while bringing some reality closer to the children, Gladinw Madabandla, an ex-convict and ex-drug addict, gave a jaw-dropping motivational talk to the children. He told the children that he was on parole after having served eight years for armed robbery and was recently released. He encouraged them not to commit crime and rather to focus on education, which had earned him a National Diploma in Human Resource Management while serving his sentence. “No one will define your life other than yourself. As an human resource management person while serving his sentence, on education, which had earned him a National Diploma in Human Resource Management while serving his sentence, he told the children not to commit crime and rather to focus on education, which had earned him a National Diploma in Human Resource Management while serving his sentence. “No one will define your life other than yourself. As an Human Resource Management person while serving his sentence, on education, which had earned him a National Diploma in Human Resource Management while serving his sentence, he told the children not to commit crime and rather to focus on education, which had earned him a National Diploma in Human Resource Management while serving his sentence.

The following fraudulent activities are most common in the GEFP environment. (Fraud committed within the Government Pensions Administration Agency falls without the ambit of this article):

- Fraudulent retrenchments by using the Z102 form, while employees are still in service.
- The submission of fraudulent Z894 forms. This entails the interception of authentic Z894 forms (banking particulars forms) and changing of banking details.
- Fraudulent beneficiaries. (Pension fund payouts are diverted to bogus or unauthorised beneficiaries.)
- Fraudulent payouts. (Uncollected benefits and death claim benefits are paid out to bogus or unauthorised beneficiaries.)

Before you make the call, remember that you will have to give the hotline operator the full details of the fraudulent, corrupt or unethical practice that you are reporting. Ensure that you have prepared sufficient, detailed and factually correct information about the following aspects:

- What has happened/is happening?
- How is it done, and how often?
- Who is involved, and what are they doing? (Modus operandi)
- Who are the victims?
- Where is it done, and when? (For example, in which department/office, and is it done during working hours or after hours?)
- When was it first observed?
- What is the monetary value involved?
- Are there any other witnesses?
- Are there any records/other proof available?
- What is your involvement or how do you become aware of it? (For example, did someone exert force on you to commit fraud, or to keep quiet about the situation? Was force exerted on someone else?)

After giving the information to the operator, you will receive a reference number. You must keep this number safe because you will need to quote it at a later stage, when receiving feedback. Complainants are advised to keep their suspicions confidential and not to share information about it with others, especially not on an unsecured electronic media.

GEPF toll-free fraud hotline number: 0800 43 43 73. Calls are treated objectively and confidentially. Callers may remain anonymous, if they choose to do so. The hotline is running from a secure location, and the operators have been trained to ensure that the identity of a caller is protected in accordance with the stipulations set out in the Protected Disclosures Act, 2000 (Act No 26 of 2000).
Gender-based violence is a global problem that continues to manifest itself on all levels of our society. Most women and children are at high risk and negatively affected by gender-based violence, especially in South Africa as compared to other countries. However, men and boys can also experience this type of violence. The root for the prevalence of this type of violence is that our different communities and cultures consider or perceive it as a ‘private’ or ‘family’ matter, rather than a societal problem, which makes it acceptable as part of our norms.

Since 1994, the South African government has been making concerted efforts and passing legislations to curb violence against women and children, but we are still experiencing high numbers of gender-based violence daily. The constitutional vision of equality, which incorporates redressing gender and other imbalances, is carried forward in the legislation that promotes (gender) equality. This legislation includes, among others, the Employment Equity Act No 55 of 1998, the Domestic Violence Act 116 of 1998, the Protection from Harassment Act 17 of 2011 and the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 32 of 2007. An independent research was carried out by Gender Links in Gauteng and it showed that 51% of women with partners disclosed that they had been victims of abuse at the hands of their partners, (33.1% experienced physical abuse and 18.8% experienced sexual abuse). Conversely, the research also showed that 78% of men with partners disclosed having been abused emotionally, economically, physically or sexually by their partners. Furthermore, the study also showed that 37.4% of men had raped a woman or girl who was a stranger, acquaintance, family member or intimate partner.

The annual commemoration of the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children is — ‘COUNT ME IN: TOGETHER MOVING A NON-VIOLENT SOUTH AFRICA FORWARD’.

In a bid to eradicating gender-based violence in South Africa, the SAPS, the SABC and the Tears Foundation launched the ‘Bang a Pot, Breaking a Silence and Stop Abuse Campaign’ at the SABC’s Head Quarters, on 25 November 2015, as part of the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children. Various speakers echoed the same sentiments of making an end to violence against women and children.

The SABC’s Acting COO, Ms Bessie Thungwana, said “it is in us that we find a lasting solution to end gender-based violence. We did it during our political struggle and it got us where we are today, which means it is in us to find a lasting solution to this problem. We, as South Africans, we should commit to doing our best to bring an end to the abuse of women and children.”

The founder of the Tears Foundation, Ms Mara Glennie, told South Africans to stop blaming police for not doing enough to stop violence and do something about it themselves. “We have to take responsibility for gender-based violence. We should hate the act of abuse, not the people and speak out against violence against women and children,” she said.

The Head of the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) Unit, Maj Gen Yvonne Botsheleng, highlighted that the SAPS has re-established the FCS Unit in 2010, in order to provide efficient and effective intervention in rape, attempted rape, domestic violence, and the sexual exploitation of children and human trafficking cases.

She emphasized the seriousness of domestic violence, which unfortunately takes place behind closed doors most of the time. She urged community members to play their part by being the eyes and ears of the police and aide in the arrest of perpetrators.

Since the re-establishment of the FCS Unit, the police have secured 2 444 life sentences. This is an indication that the police are committed to dealing with the perpetrators of gender-based violence swiftly.

The FCS Unit has 176 offices countrywide dealing with violence against women and children in our communities.

At the Launch of the 16 Days Campaign on 25 November 2014, President Jacob Zuma said that activism against gender-based violence, should be a year long and not limited to 16 days only. The Department of Social Development headed the President’s call and launched the ‘365 Days for No Violence Against Women and Children’ (#365DaysCampaign) and the ‘CountMeIn’.

The Government’s call to action is that throughout the 365 days/year, we should be engaging with different communities, institutions and sectors to raise awareness and changing attitudes and mindsets about women’s rights, gender equality and violence and abuse of women and children.

South Africans need to be active participants in the fight to eradicate violence against women and children, therefore the theme of this year is — ‘COUNT ME IN: TOGETHER MOVING A NON-VIOLENT SOUTH AFRICA FORWARD’.

In an effort to develop balanced and responsible leaders in the SAPS and society, ‘Men for Change’ in the Crime Intelligence Division convened a special meeting and year-end closing ceremony aimed at empowering members with information on leadership.

The meeting took place at the Burgers Park Hotel in Pretoria on 4 December 2015, with the theme: ‘Men Reclaiming Their Leadership Role’. Members attended in large numbers and issues regarding men’s leadership in the SAPS and society including financial management and healthy living, were discussed in earnest. In his welcoming and opening address, Maj Gen Josh Lokalakala urged men to take their rightful place in their families, society and the organisation. “We need to work together and take each other’s hands so that we can take the SAPS and our society forward. Before we can make a change, we need to master our own emotions and conduct so that we can become agents of positive change,” he said.

Maj Gen Lokalakala urged men to lead their families in a responsible manner and emphasised that the SAPS did not need men who are abusive, but men who have good characters and who are and will become exemplary leaders. He also pointed out that men in the organisation should begin to support other men who are seriously challenged in life as also did that 10.26 million people had impaired credit cards responsibly in order to avoid drowning in debt. He said that proper planning was necessary to avoid drowning in debt and that it was best to pay cash.

“The cost of credit is exceptionally high because when we buy on credit, there is interest which is sometimes inflated and the agents of credit providers do not always inform people correctly and are often misleading. Therefore, as the National Credit Regulator, we are there to help you as consumers take informed decisions,” said Mr Matsimbi. He also alluded that 10.24 million people had impaired credit records and that these people had to seek help before it became too late. Mr Matsimbi concluded his talk by educating members on their rights as credit consumers, and how to access the credit bureau and ask for records. It is within your rights to know your status at the credit bureau and challenge incorrect information, which you should demand be corrected,” he said.

Mr Lungelo Maake from Virgin Active Clubs, encouraged members to be active due to the nature of their work as police officers. He said it was important for members to be physically active, because physical fitness improved your mood, image, social life and confidence.

Another highlight of the day was when Pastor Riaan Warthen spoke about the importance of spiritual balance. He told men to be spiritually sound and have perseverance so that they would not easily give up on their visions and dreams. He emphasised that it was the older generation’s responsibility to teach young men to stop or refrain from substance abuse and not look away when the youth went astray, but to help them and teach them the right way.

He told men to be spiritually sound and have perseverance so that they would not easily give up on their visions and dreams. He emphasised that it was the older generation’s responsibility to teach young men to stop or refrain from substance abuse and not look away when the youth went astray, but to help them and teach them the right way.

Maj Gen Josh Lokalakala spoke to members on taking their leadership role in society seriously.
THE POSITIVE EFFECTS OF CHANGE

By Lt (Pastor) Alain Waljee

Routine, repetitiveness and consistency give us, as people, a sense of security and safety. Familiarity and our surroundings increase our belief that everything is under control. We associate control – and sometimes even an unhealthy need for control – with our own spiritual, emotional, mental, social and even physical sense of well-being.

When we lose control, our natural response is almost always to start questioning ourselves, others and even our faith. This causes confusion, self-doubt, fear and many other negative emotions that, if not attended to, could lead to serious spiritual, emotional and psychological damage to a person, such as exposure to trauma where conditions, such as acute stress disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, among other conditions, become a real possibility for many sufferers.

This sense of the loss of control and feelings of a lack of security are often the reality for many people when faced with change. Change forces us out of our comfort zones and generates emotions inside us, such as anger, fear, self-pity and aggression, because we often feel that change threatens our security and our well-being. That is why there are so many people in the workplace who keep fighting for “the way things have always been done”, or we argue against change saying, “Why change it if it works?”

However, change is not always negative or destructive. There are multiple lessons in the histories of the world, as well as personal testimonies in our individual lives of how change, although difficult when it happens, has brought with it improvement, growth and a better quality of life.

Technology is change, but it has made getting things done much more convenient and easier, such as transport for travel; phones and social media for communication; microwaves, electrical ovens and stoves for food preparation. This is good change.

Let us draw from the wisdom of the Bible regarding the importance of accepting change and working through the negative emotions inside us that resist change. In the Book of Numbers 20:12, Moses is disqualified from entering the Promised Land, simply because he could not submit to God’s changing ways of working with people. Throughout the Book of Exodus, we see how God endorsed Moses’ use of his and Aaron’s rods to bring about miracles that helped God’s people in difficult situations. However, in Numbers 20, God told Moses to speak to the rock face and water would come out, but force of habit and lack of faith in God’s new way of bringing about the miracle, caused Moses to hit the rock with his rod, as he had done so many times in the past. God’s response to Moses was that Moses did not believe that the miracle could come through his speaking to the rock as God had instructed. This unwillingness to change and Moses’ fear for change caused Moses to miss out on the very thing he had worked so hard to achieve, and we read the sad portion of the Bible where Moses was only allowed to see the land he had led the people to, but he was not allowed to enter it (Deuteronomy 32:52).

Dear reader, time, chance and life will often demand us to change and it will always be frightening, confusing and sometimes even exciting. Change is what makes our bodies grow to maturity. Change and managing change are what brings cohesion and closeness in a relationship. Change builds the fibre and direction of the workplace. Change is not an enemy. It is a friend if we adapt to it and learn to manage it wisely.

There is much to learn from the prayer now commonly known as the Serenity Prayer, authored by American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971):

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;

Courage to change the things I can;

And wisdom to know the difference.

Serenity and peace prevail when we learn to accept the things we cannot change, such as change that confronts us in various areas of our lives, especially in the workplace, and learning how to adapt to that change and growing with it.

My prayer for you today is that you will find the grace to see change as an opportunity for growth and improvement, and that you will find the courage to align yourself to draw maximum benefit from the change, while making significant contributions to your environment (work, personal or family) throughout the process of change and in your area of influence.

The Spiritual Services Section has developed and implemented a programme in association with the Human Resource Development Division, called the Change Management Programme for the benefit of the commanders and members of the SAPS. This is a great tool to assist employees with managing and coping with change in the workplace and in general.

Please do not hesitate to contact Spiritual Services for any spiritual guidance or counseling at 082 778 5477 or consult with your local chaplain.
THE FIRST SAPS MATERIAL IN BRAILLE

By Lt Vincent Mukhathi

The SAPS has given millions of people living with disabilities easy access to information, after handing out material in braille on crime awareness and crime prevention for visually impaired persons, for the first time.

The event took place on 28 November 2015, at the Filadelfia Secondary School in Soshanguve, which accommodates disabled and hearing and visually impaired people. This was done in an effort to address the exclusion of people with disabilities in relation to the promotion material that deals with sexual offences and gender-based violence.

This initiative supports the United Nations’ and the SAPS’s convention on the rights of persons with disabilities as mandated by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, which compels accommodating people living with disabilities. Access to information is a fundamental right, therefore the SAPS allocated funds to translate, print and distribute material in braille. The project to distribute material in braille will be rolled out to all the provinces next year.

Col Madimetja Dolo of the Gender-Based Violence, Children and Vulnerable Groups Subsection, under the Visible Crimes Against Persons Section, said that the SAPS had information on the following topics:
- The Domestic Violence Act 116 of 1998
- The Criminal Law (Sexual Offence and Related Matters) Amendment Act of 32 of 2007
- Victim empowerment.

A learner representative, Anele Thungela, emphasised that the SAPS provided the scholars with pamphlets in braille, which had information on the following topics:

- The Domestic Violence Act 116 of 1998
- The Criminal Law (Sexual Offence and Related Matters) Amendment Act of 32 of 2007
- Victim empowerment.

Brig Ouma Selamele handing over promotional material to Isaiah Vuma, a blind learner from Filadelfia Secondary School in Soshanguve, Pretoria.

CHRISTMAS CAME EARLY FOR DOMESTIC WORKERS AND GARDENERS

By WO Stephen Maluleka
Photographs by Ntiyiso Ngobeni

Good deeds often go unnoticed, but to some philanthropists appreciating them is routine. Such acknowledgment manifested at the annual Domestic Watch’s Year-end Function and the Certificate of Attendance Award Ceremony held at the Rosebank Church Union, recently.

This momentous day was exclusively dedicated to the men and women who are always taking care of children, cleaning houses, doing laundry, gardening, running errands, looking after pets, and playing the role of security guards, while property owners are not home.

It is these men and women, called domestic workers and gardeners, who blow the whistle when something amiss happens in the leafy suburbs of Rosebank, Fontainebleau, Blairgowrie, Bryanston, Linden, Midrand, Morningside, Northcliff, Parkhurst and Randburg; to mention but a few. They ensure that they call the SAPS and other private security companies to arrest criminals and remove them from society.

It is against this backdrop that the ‘Making A Difference’ (MAD) Domestic Watch Organisation came up with this initiative of extending a gesture of appreciation to these workers, who are usually overlooked. They were awarded certificates as tokens of appreciation and given some goodies to thank them for good work done. Addressing domestic workers and gardeners, the Acting Station Commander of the Randburg Police Station, Col Andries Odendaal, lauded the Domestic Watch for their great effort in making the apprehension of criminals easier for the SAPS.

“You are in charge of our homes when we are away, we must empower you at the end of the day. I want to honour you because you are winners, and for assisting us in fighting crime,” said Col Odendaal. He went on encouraging them, telling them that they make a huge difference and that they must keep up the good work. “From the SAPS’s side, we support this programme wholeheartedly because we are facing criminals together,” added Col Odendaal.

The eyes and ears of the police took turns singing on stage and they were later treated with breathtaking musical and dance performances by a local Gospel singer, Tebogo and Martin Barber, who enthralled them with his unique dance moves. The day was capped with a short simulation of emergency scene management by the St John’s Ambulance Services’ Marketing Manager and Training Officer, Mr Bheko Hlangsia.

Since the mood was very festive and jovial, Penny Steyn, the event organiser, had little to say and concluded the day’s activities by expressing her gratitude to all and sundry. “I am so humble grateful, for your humility and dedication. I love you and I have no value without you, thank you for spreading the news because through you, we can change South Africa,” she said. Ms Steyn concluded by saying, “our dreams can certainly come true, when we know what we do, let us advocate for peace.” Bongi Zaca who works at Fountain Blue, expressed her appreciation and said: “I am so happy and grateful to be recognised by mama Penny and her team, this kind of recognition does not come by every day.”

Domestic workers and gardeners singing and dancing with the local gospel singer affectionately known as Tebogo (black jacket).
The cheerful interior and decor of the facility is aimed at relaxing and reassuring young victims. Police officials and parents are able to unobtrusively watch the child’s reactions and revelations while his/her actions are simultaneously being recorded for court purposes.

Rape statistics indicate that in South Africa, a child is raped every three minutes, many of them being girls between eight and twelve years old and they are raped by someone they know.

For this reason, the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences detectives of Ekangala Police Station near Bronkhorstspruit, welcomed the opening of a child-friendly reporting facility at the station in December 2015.

The child-friendly facility was opened by ‘Matla a Bana’, a national organisation with a focus in the Western Cape and Gauteng. They speak out against child abuse and assist young victims. According to the ‘Matla a Bana’ project organiser for Gauteng, Lizelle van Eeden, the organisation helps more than 13 000 children annually.

The aim of ‘Matla a Bana’ is to minimise the secondary abuse children suffer when they report crime against them. Lizelle said: “This time of the year (December) is family time, but unfortunately also a time of alcohol abuse and many children suffer trauma because of the neglect and recklessness of adults who are under the influence of alcohol. We want to ensure that young victims are not further traumatised when they report abuse. We do this by providing a welcoming environment and play therapy to relax and comfort them.”

‘Matla a Bana’ also educates communities on what child abuse is, the signs, symptoms and how to report it. It is their goal to prevent child abuse from happening by encouraging people to report it. They do this through prevention, awareness and victim-support projects.

Their victim-support initiatives include comfort packs, child-friendly reporting facilities and play-therapy projects, most of which are sponsored by Old Mutual.

Renée Palmer of Old Mutual’s Corporate Social Investments Division, explained that Old Mutual’s sponsorship was made possible through the contributions of their employees to the Old Mutual Payroll Programme. The total of the employees’ contribution was matched rand for rand by the Old Mutual Foundation, and the money was used to sponsor NGO projects and for the upliftment of communities in need. ‘Matla a Bana’ is one of the flagship organisations that Old Mutual has been working with since 2009.
THREE LIFE SENTENCES AND 60 YEARS’ IMPRISONMENT FOR ‘HAMMER MAN’

By Capt Paul Ramoloko

The Acting Provincial Commissioner of the North West, Maj Gen Jacob Tsumane, lauded a team of investigating officers for securing hefty sentences in a string of cases against the “Hammer Man” Bigboy Solomon Moleko.

Moleko (35) was recently sentenced by the Mafikeng High Court to three times life sentences for nine cases including rape, murder, attempted murder, and robbery, he committed in 2013. He was sentenced to an additional 15 years for two attempted murder cases and 45 years for three robbery cases.

Moleko, was named “Hammer Man” after he gained popularity in Mafikeng for hitting his victims, mostly from Seweding and Montshiwa, with a hammer before either robbing or raping them. He mostly targeted women walking pass a busy area at Extension 39 in Mmabatho, near the shopping complexes.

On 27 September 2015, Moleko attacked a 15-year-old girl who was walking with her boyfriend next to the same area. Her boyfriend ran away and left her behind. Moleko then forced the girl into the bushes, where he raped and killed her. The next day, the teen’s body was found in the bushes with several wounds on the upper part of it.

In handing the sentence, the judge did not order that the sentences must run concurrently, meaning, Moleko will have to serve his sentences one after another.

THREE SUSPECTS ARRESTED FOR DEALING IN DAGGA WORTH MORE THAN R1 MILLION

By Lt Col Norman Joseph

Members of the Western Cape Flying Squad recently arrested three suspects and seized dagga with an estimated street value of R1,1 million.

The members received information of drug-dealing at premises in Glenfield Street, Brooklyn. Upon arrival at the premises, they requested permission to enter and it was granted by the owner of the house. The police officers discovered a locked room, but the owner said he did not have the key.

The police could smell the strong stench of dagga and forced open the door. They discovered several boxes full of compressed dagga weighing 35.893 kilograms. Three suspects, two males aged 26 and 32 and a 25-year-old female, were arrested and are facing charges of dealing in dagga.

SEXUAL OFFENDERS SENTENCED TO 55 YEARS’ IMPRISONMENT

Maj Pelonomi Makau

Twins brothers Thabang Godfrey and Kagetsiile Sydney Montsho, 26, were sentenced to 20 years’ imprisonment each. The Itoseng Regional Court sentenced their 18-year-old accomplice, Buli Aaron Maroko, to 15 years’ imprisonment for rape on 1 December 2015.

On the night of 25 September 2010, the 27-year-old victim from Bodibe village and her four male friends, were on their way home after attending a church service. They were approached by the three convicted, who threatened them with knives. They forcefully took the victim to a deserted and vandalised house in the area, where they took turns in raping her repeatedly throughout the night.

The convicts left the victim in the old house, but she went home and the police were informed. Maroko was arrested the same day, and the twins were arrested a few weeks later.

Veteran Detective Afforded Long Sentences to Armed Robbers

By Lt Col Norman Joseph

Photograph by Capt Piet Smit

The Parow Regional Court sentenced two men to a total of 48 years’ imprisonment for various crimes committed three years ago.

The investigating officer, D/WO Gladstone Kasper from the Khayelitsha Police Station, who previously worked at the Provincial Detective Unit, successfully opposed bail against Ayanda Klaas(38) from Langa and Kholisele Mantsa(40) from Nyanga, keeping them behind bars since 29 June 2012. Klaas and Mantsa were recently convicted for theft of motor vehicle, theft out of motor vehicle, the possession of an illegal firearm and ammunition, armed robbery and being found in possession of suspected stolen money.

D/WO Kasper, a veteran investigating officer, linked the cases against the two accused registered at the Goodwood and Bothasig Police Stations. In one of the crimes, the accused followed a complainant from a bank after the man had withdrawn R45 000 in cash. They held up and robbed him in Bothasig. The Parow Regional Court’s officials praised D/WO Kasper for good investigating work.
The third SAPS Sports Day for 2015, recently held at the Pinelands Sports grounds, was a great success, with members turning up in numbers to enjoy the festive day.

Members competed in 20 different sports codes on a beautiful summer’s day. Apart from the sporting events, there were several food stalls for members who enjoyed meals and soft drinks. Members were entertained by a dance routine performed by the Wynberg Cluster, a karate display and a body building performance by Sgt Sebastian Tshangana of the Nyanga Police Station.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the soccer and rugby final matches. Both sports codes played in seven-a-side teams. In the final soccer match, the Khayelitsha Cluster’s team beat Operational Response Services’ team by 2-0, clinching the floating trophy, while the Tygerberg Cluster’s team hammered the De Gamaskop Cluster’s team with 36-0 in the final rugby match.

Both games had the spectators shouting in support of their teams, with most of them standing near the touchlines for a better view of the action. In an exciting volleyball match, the Tygerberg Cluster’s team beat the Local Criminal Record Centre’s team with 21-16. WO Wayne Theunis and Sgt Elton Baron from the Tygerberg Cluster thrilled the crowd with their outstanding performances.

In his keynote address, the Worcester Cluster Commander, Maj Gen Kenneth Mkhize told the audience that playing sports improved the work performance of the members, which enhanced service delivery.

The Programme Director, Lt Col Neville Collins of Human Resource Development, said that the Sports Day was held to improve the members’ fitness, morale “and to restore this facility (Pinelands SAPS Sports grounds) to its former glory”.

At the end of the day, the Tygerberg Cluster was announced the overall winners, while the Worcester Cluster took the second place and Khayelitsha Cluster the third place.
CENTRAL FIREARMS REGISTER: COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

BACKGROUND

The Firearms Control Act, 2000, regulates the acquisition, possession, transportation, use and disposal of firearms in South Africa. It is regarded as an important instrument in the fight against violent crimes and is founded on the following objectives:

- To enhance the constitutional rights to life and bodily integrity;
- To prevent the proliferation of illegally possessed firearms and, by providing for the removal of those firearms from society and by improving control over legally possessed firearms, to prevent crime involving the use of firearms;
- To enable the State to remove illegally possessed firearms from society, to control the supply, possession, safe storage, transfer and used of firearms and to detect and punish the negligent or criminal use of firearms;
- To establish a comprehensive and effective system of firearm control and management; and
- To ensure the efficient monitoring and enforcement of legislation pertaining to the control firearms.

The successful implementation of this legislation hinges both on enforcement and compliance. Although the CFR is the primary role player responsible for the administrative processes, broader enforcement remains the responsibility of the SAPS. On the other hand there is an obligation on the part of communities especially licence holders to comply. Throughout its implementation since promulgation, the Act had experienced challenges that affected both enforcement and compliance.

The Central Firearms Register has taken a conscious decision to engage SAPS members through various platforms in order to address implementation challenges that inhibit efficient and effective enforcement of this Act. A series of multifaceted activities have been lined up where different aspects of this legislation will be communicated through different implementation challenges that inhibit efficient and effective enforcement of this Act.

The first phase of activities will include Information sessions with internal role players which will be conducted at head office as well as throughout the entire country. The following schedule outlines the envisaged interaction:

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<th>INFORMATION SESSION</th>
<th>TARGET GROUP</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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Information and information sharing is key towards DFO empowerment as well as decision making. The following measures have been put in place to enhance in and out flow of information between CFR and DFO’s at provincial and station levels:

- Enquiry Desk (cftrengury@saps.gov.za): This desk deals with all enquiries including long outstanding firearm applications.
- All matters relating to DFO Training/ Refresher Courses and general DFO issues are dealt with at: (mokenakwenwa@saps.gov.za).
- All matters relating to Dealers, Manufacturers and Gunsmiths are dealt with at: (lesigew@saps.gov.za) or (mosianemmathews@saps.gov.za).
- The Firearms Call Centre (012 353 6111) is an external means used for the general enquiries by the applicants.
- The primary objectives of these measures are:
  - Streamline Corporate communication,
  - Expedite the flow of information.

DFO’s are encouraged to fully utilize these channels to improve their understanding of developments within the firearm environment.
WANTED PERSONS

The South African Police Service (SAPS) request urgent assistance from members of the public in tracing the following alleged perpetrators wanted in connection with various criminal offences committed countrywide.

WANTED FOR FRAUD
SAMKELO GOODWILL MDELETSHE
Investigating Officer: Const PB Masina
017 819 2321
0731238164

WANTED FOR FRAUD
SIBONGILE EMILY NDLOVU
Investigating Officer: Const PB Masina
017 819 2321
0731238164

WANTED FOR FRAUD
JLINDELWA KUNIEI NGWENYA
Investigating Officer: Const PB Masina
017 819 2321
0731238164

WANTED FOR FRAUD
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Investigating Officer: Const PB Masina
017 819 2321
0731238164

WANTED FOR TRESPASSING
JONAS MOKGETHWAMAKO
Investigating Officer: Sgt VT Rabalao
013 768 1122
0724672417

WANTED FOR POSSESSION OF UNLICENSED FIREARM
NKOSINATHI CHRISTOPHER DLUDDL
WO AZ Phiri
017 819 2321
0716771466

SAPS CRIME STOP
08600 10111
OR SMS INFORMATION TO CRIME LINE ON 32211
( YOU MAY REMAIN ANONYMOUS )