



WEATHER TODAY

NELSPRUIT: HIGH 29° LOW 08°



WITBANK:

HIGH 26° LOW 08°



STANDERTON:

HIGH 27° LOW 08°



My Space

THE NEW AGE



WEATHER TODAY

POLOKWANE: HIGH 27° LOW 09°



MUSINA:

HIGH 31° LOW 13°



TZANEEN:

HIGH 29° LOW 12°



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Women first at mining house

MONTSHO MATLALA

PALABORA Mining Company (PMC) has committed itself to transformation and women empowerment.

Speaking during the engagement session with women and other stakeholders in Phalaborwa recently, PMC chief financial officer Dikeledi Nakene said the company's transformation agenda was focused on empowering previously disadvantaged communities, especially women.

Nakene urged women employees at the company to support each other in empowering communities.

The company's external affairs and communications manager Lydia Radebe said management was using every opportunity to achieve transformation and gender mainstreaming.

Radebe said more than 80% of the company's total workforce was sourced from local communities.

"PMC wishes to continue to empower

employees, especially women and contribute to socioeconomic development of the greater Ba-Phalaborwa municipality and South Africa in general. We urge communities to assist us in keeping stability in the area so that we can continue to create more opportunities," she said.

Economic development environment and tourism MEC Seaparo Sekoati who also attended the event advised youth and women to continue studying in order to achieve positions of power.

"There are lots of opportunities for people with education and skills out there. As the government we urge young people and women of all races to empower themselves with education and use it as a weapon against poverty," Sekoati said.

The MEC also congratulated PMC for being one of the transforming mining houses with impressive statistics on local employment and empowerment of women.

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TIPS: MEC Seaparo Sekoati says the youth must study to advance. PICTURE: PHOTOFEST

Council to discuss seizure of goods

Office workers are unable to work after court sheriff attached items

MONTSHO MATLALA

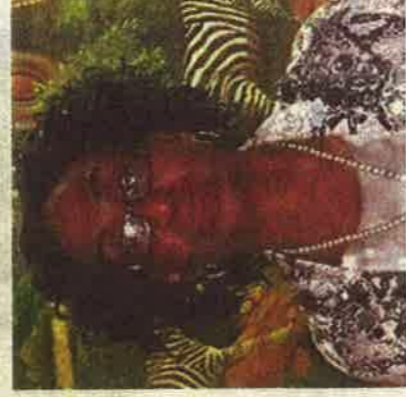
THE coalition-controlled Thabazimbi municipality council will convene tomorrow to discuss ways of finding office furniture and computers in order to reset services in motion.

Office workers have been unable to perform their duties since Friday last week after the sheriff of the court descended on the municipality to attach the goods.

This after various service providers turned to the court saying the previous ANC-led municipality failed to pay them for goods and services in spite of assurances.

Yesterday Joshua Motsomane said despite the attachment of some working tools, not all services were shut down.

"Vehicles are not attached this time around and technicians in electricity, water, refuse removal departments and other services still have tools to perform



UPSET: Mayor Midah Moselane. Our three satellite offices are unaffected and still operating normally," Motsomane said.

Earlier, the mayor, Midah Moselane, expressed disappointment that employees and the administrator did not inform new councillors about the pending legal action by creditors despite having full knowledge thereof.

Moselane, who ascended the top position on the Thabazimbi Residents Association backed by the DA, EFF and FF Plus, said the legal team would attend to the matter soon.

It is not the first time the council finds itself on a collision course with creditors. Several of its vehicles were attached and auctioned off during the previous ANC administration to settle debts.

In August last year the provincial cooperative governance, human settlements and traditional affairs department placed the embattled municipality under administration when it was facing a possible electricity black out due to a R114m debt in bulk power supply.

Approached for comment on the latest crisis faced by the municipality, the department's Khathu Razwiedane said they had full confidence in the administrator, advocate Letjepe Thubakgrale to resolve the crisis.

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Complainant, 'victim' face charges

MONTSHO MATLALA

AN INVESTIGATION by the Hawks has led to the arrest of a Polokwane man who reported that a 29-year-old woman, their daughter, 5 and another girl, 14, were kidnapped from Ladana in the town.

The three were later found and the woman was charged with perjury, defeating the ends of justice and kidnapping.

Leon du Preez, 34, who reported them to the police, has also been slapped with the same charges.

This after the Hawks found evidence

suggesting that Du Preez and Berdine Ronel Jordaan might have staged the kidnapping drama to cover their own alleged sinister motives.

"Jordaan allegedly lied about being kidnapped whereas she was the one who allegedly kidnapped the 14-year-old girl. The second suspect Du Preez was arrested after investigations revealed that he connived with Jordaan in kidnapping the girl," the Hawks said.

"Furthermore, Jordaan and the girl were found by Hawks allegedly hiding in Du Preez's house in Musina during the time they were reported to have

been kidnapped," the Hawks said in a statement.

The two, Du Preez and Jordaan appeared in the Polokwane Magistrate's Court separately this month and released on R2 000 bail each.

They will now appear together in court to face charges of perjury, defeating the ends of justice and kidnapping on September 20.

The Hawks said it was not clear yet why the couple attempted to kidnap the teen and came up with claims that they were also victims of kidnapping.

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