



Pixley Independent

The Independent Voice Of Northern Cape

www.pixleyindependent.co.za
pixleyindependent@gmail.com

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Northern Cape

23 - 30 SEPT 2026

Phaveau Beauty Shines in MTN Top 10



Mr Arthur Mukhuvha, (GM MTN Foundation), Hon. Mmapaseka "Steve" Litsike, (Deputy Minister for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities), Charmonè Blennies, (Director of Phaveau Beauty), Ms. Marina Madale (MTN Group Executive), Hon. Jesta Slidell (MEC Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Tourism), Mr. Lemmy Mdluli (Chief Director at Department of Economic Development Mpumalanga)

Kimberley

A Kimberley entrepreneur is taking the Northern Cape to the national stage after being selected among the Top 10 finalists in the MTN Women in Digital Business Challenge. Through Phaveau Beauty, a technology-driven beauty venture she is building with her business partner, the pair are exploring how technology can be used to make beauty services more innovative, convenient, time-effective and accessible.

The concept was born from the belief that the beauty industry should evolve alongside technology, with a

focus on introducing tech into the beauty experience, including innovative nail solutions. Although still in its early stages, Phaveau Beauty's vision extends beyond beauty services. The partners aim to create opportunities for employment, skills development and entrepreneurship, while proving that innovation can thrive beyond traditionally recognised tech industries.

Reacting to the Top 10 recognition, the entrepreneur said the milestone was about more than personal achievement. "Being selected as a Top 10 finalist shows that big, innovative ideas can come from small cities like Kimberley and still reach a national platform.

Through Phaveau Beauty, we want to show that when technology and creativity intersect, we can build a beauty industry that is more accessible and creates real opportunities for other women," she said.

She added that the programme has opened crucial doors for the business. "This opportunity has given us exposure, mentorship and networks that are helping us turn our vision into a sustainable business. We are truly grateful to the MTNi Foundation and the EBL Institute of Business and Technology for investing in women entrepreneurs." The journey ahead for Phaveau Beauty is one of growth, learning and continued innovation.

Naledi Malete Spells Her Way to the Big Stage



Upington

Words carry weight, and Grade 9 learner Naledi

Malete from Hoërskool Saul Damon is living proof of just how far they can carry you. The young spelling sensation from Upington clinched an impressive third place at the SANLAM WOW Provincial Spelling Competition, punching her ticket to represent both the ZF Mgcawu District and the whole Northern Cape at the national finals.

Naledi's win didn't happen by chance. It's the payoff of hours of grinding, quiet determination and a real love for language. Standing behind her every step of the way is her spelling coach, Miss Bovu, whose guidance and patience helped build Naledi's confidence and sharpen her skill. Principal Mr Smith has also been a rock of encouragement, making sure the school backed her fully throughout the journey. On 3 October 2026, Naledi will take to the national stage in Stellenbosch, carrying the hopes of her school, her

district and the entire province on her shoulders.

For a Grade 9 learner from Upington to make it this far is no small thing. It's a proud moment for Hoërskool Saul Damon and a bright sign of the talent brewing in the Northern Cape. Spelling competitions aren't for the faint-hearted. They demand focus, memory and nerves of steel. Naledi has shown all three in abundance. Her success is a reminder that excellence can come from anywhere even a classroom in Upington when raw talent meets real dedication. The school community is beaming with pride as their young champion gears up for the finals. Naledi Malete has already made her mark.

Now she gets the chance to show the rest of South Africa what a Northern Cape learner can do when the letters start falling into place.

Northern Cape High School brings hope to young patients



Kimberley

Northern Cape High School brought a message of hope, compassion and community support to young patients at Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital (RMSH) as part of the school's 48th anniversary celebrations.

The school community visited the Paediatric Ward, where learners and staff spent time with young patients and their mothers, offering words of encouragement, comfort and support during their hospital stay. As part of the visit, the school donated thoughtfully prepared parcels of goodies to the children. The gesture brought smiles to the young patients and served as a reminder that they are supported and cared for by their wider community.

Dressed in vibrant green T-shirts, Northern Cape High School staff also engaged with mothers at the bedside, providing a listening ear and sharing messages of hope, resilience and encouragement.

The visit highlighted the importance of giving back to the community

N.Cape Health Department bids farewell to 11 medical students returning to Cuba



The Northern Cape Department of Health has bid farewell to 11 medical students who are returning to Cuba to continue their studies under the Mandela-Castro Medical Collaboration Programme (MCMCP).

The students, who were recruited in 2023, recently attended a farewell session hosted by the

department following their short academic recess. They are part of a strategic programme aimed at addressing the shortage of medical professionals, particularly in rural health facilities, while strengthening healthcare service delivery across the province. The farewell session featured messages of encouragement from senior health professionals,

including Medical Director Dr Dion Theys, alumni of the RSA-Cuban Medical Collaboration Programme, Human Resources Development practitioners and a psychiatrist.

Speakers encouraged the students to remain committed to their studies and reminded them of the historical importance of the programme in strengthening primary healthcare, especially at district level. The Mandela-Castro Medical Collaboration Programme was born from the vision of former South African President Nelson Mandela and former Cuban leader Fidel Castro in 1995. It was formalised through bilateral health agreements in 1996 and later extended in 2012. The Northern Cape Department of Health has participated in the programme since 2000. Before the 2023 intake, the province had already produced 156 medical graduates through the initiative.

Over the years, the programme has made a significant contribution to healthcare in the Northern Cape by equipping young South Africans with medical skills and helping to address the shortage of doctors in underserved communities. The department says graduates of the programme have strengthened healthcare delivery across all five districts of the province, contributing to improved access to quality and efficient medical services, particularly for communities in rural areas.

The 11 students will now return to Cuba to continue their medical training, with the expectation that their skills will ultimately contribute to building a stronger and more accessible healthcare system in the Northern Cape.

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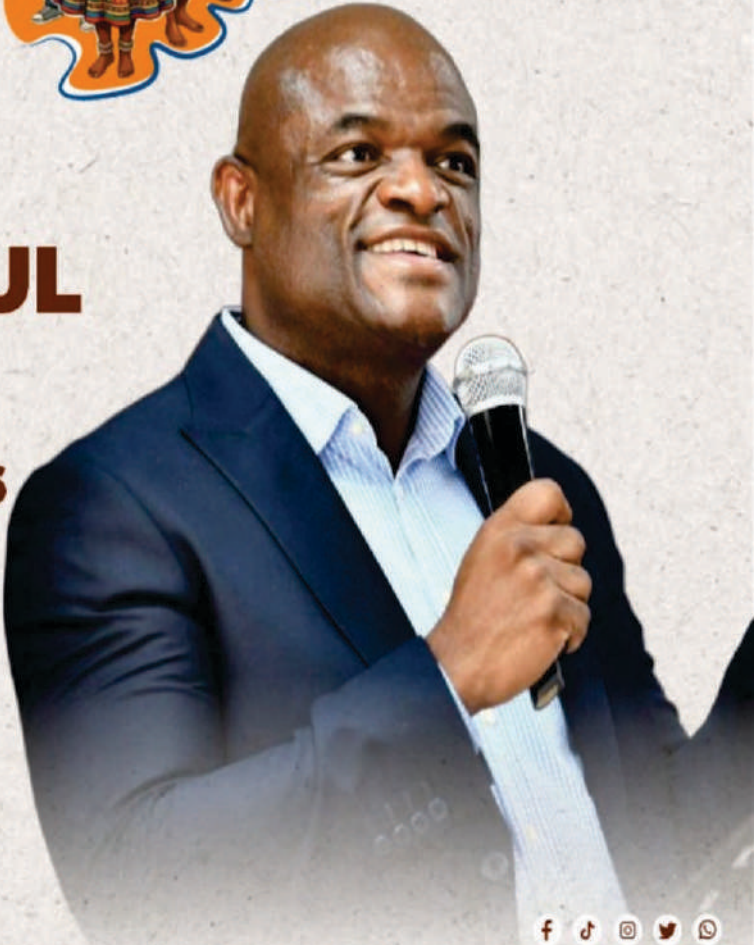


HOOFREDE DEUR:
PREMIER DR. ZAMANI SAUL



DONDERDAG. 24 SEPTEMBER 2026
Plek: Matjieskloof Sportsgronde
Nama Khoi Munisipaliteit - Tyd: 08:00

KOM MAAK GEBRUIK VAN VERSKILLENDE STAATSDIENSTE



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Handover of Marydale Community Hall



Marydale

The Pixley ka Seme District Municipality, under the leadership of Executive Mayor Councillor Roode Itumeleng and Municipal Manager Mr Isak Visser, in collaboration with Siyathemba Local Municipality, has officially handed over the Marydale Community Hall to residents of Marydale.

The handover ceremony was attended by the Mayor and Municipal Manager of Siyathemba Local Municipality, officials from Pixley ka Seme District Municipality, community members and other stakeholders. The programme was directed by Ward Councillor Nyangintaka. The handover of the community hall marks an important milestone in strengthening community infrastructure in Marydale and providing residents with a suitable facility for community programmes, meetings, events and other activities.

The new facility is expected to provide residents with a central space where community organisations, local structures and residents

Ritchie is Flowing: R129 Million water upgrade powers new hope



Ritchie

The taps of tomorrow are being built today, and Ritchie is already feeling the difference. Sol Plaatje Municipality is pouring a massive R129 million into the town’s bulk water infrastructure through the Budget Facility for Infrastructure (BFI), and the results are starting to flow.

So far, R23 million worth of work has been completed, while R106 million remains under construction. At the heart of the project is a complete makeover of the Ritchie Water Treatment Works. Brand-new filter buildings, a giant clarifier, a clear-water well and a powerful high-lift pump station are taking shape. New electrical and motor control centre buildings will serve as the brains of the entire operation.

The upgrades don’t stop at the plant. A 1.2-kilometre rising main pipeline is being laid to Motswedimosa, set to deliver more water and better pressure to more homes. Work is also breathing new life into the canal pump station, inlet works and the abstraction pump station at the Orange-Riet River. Municipal Manager Mr Thapelo Matlala announced in Ritchie that the project will also include the installation of more than 1 500 new water meters.

Prioritised network leak detection and repairs are expected to start within the next two months. This is more than concrete, pipes and pumps. It is water security. It is dignity. It is Ritchie rising. For residents who have waited long for reliable supply, the message is clear: the water is coming, the pressure is building, and the future is flowing.

Louisvaleweg Sewer Treatment plant is fully functional



The Dawid Kruiper Municipality has dismissed as false claims circulating on social media that the Louisvaleweg sewer treatment plant is broken and releasing raw sewage into the community.

In response to a poster dated 08 September 2026 circulating online, the Municipality says it wants to put the record straight: the Louisvaleweg sewerage treatment plant is fully functional and working according to its initial design. According to the Municipality, the design includes a final overflow of treated effluent. The plant does not have a broken dam, nor is it releasing raw sewage into the community as alleged.”

The process of the plant allows for an overflow of the treated effluent into the natural storm water area, where it is then conveyed to the river,” the Municipality states. Because the plant is located at a higher position than the community, the final treated effluent runs through the natural storm water system located within the community. The Municipality confirms that a buffer berm was temporarily constructed to assist in controlling the treated effluent flow during the winter period when evaporation is lower compared to summer months.

As a result, more effluent is visible during winter. The berm creates additional surface area for evaporation and is temporary - it will be removed and rehabilitated once the larger project is implemented. The plant was upgraded in 2015 and, due to community growth, further upgrades are required to handle additional flows. The DKM is currently completing further investigations and funding requests to construct a pipeline for the treated effluent to the river.

The Municipality has also noted significantly high water usage in the area, which triggers more effluent production. In addition, manhole, air valve, pump station cable theft and vandalism, including foreign materials within the sewer network, contributed to localised spillage incidents which were addressed without delay in June and August 2026.

The Municipality is pleading with the community to safeguard the sewer system and all infrastructure as it serves the interest of the community. Residents are urged to report all complaints through the municipal call centre and WhatsApp numbers.

Kay Motsepe Glory for Three Proud Northern Cape Schools



By *Katleho Malangabe*
Kimberley

The province's young football talent continues to rise as three schools claimed top honours in their respective age groups at the latest Kay Motsepe Schools Football Championship provincial stage on the 19th September 2026 at Kimberley Boys high

school.

Mogomotsi High School emerged as the proud winners of the U19 Boys category, delivering a strong and determined performance to lift the provincial title. Their success marks another proud moment for secondary school football in the Northern Cape. In the U13 Girls division, Kevin Nkaone Primary School defended their crown in style, winning the title once again. The girls showed consistency, skill and fighting spirit to retain their championship and keep the school's winning tradition alive.

Roodepan Primary School completed the Northern Cape success story by claiming the U13 Boys title. The young side impressed with their teamwork and energy, securing the provincial crown and flying the flag high for their community. These results highlight the depth of talent across the province and the hard work being put in by players, coaches and schools. From primary level all the way to the U19 age group, Northern Cape schools are proving they can compete and win. The schools have advanced to the next big level, which is the National Finals.

Congratulations to Mogomotsi High, Kevin Nkaone Primary and Roodepan Primary. The province is proud of your achievements and will be cheering you on as the journey continues.

More than 2 500 new soldiers welcomed in N.Cape after completing basic training



By *Katleho Malangabe*
Kimberley

Defence Minister Angie Motshekga, alongside Northern Cape Premier Dr Zamani Saul and Deputy Minister of Defence Bantu Holomisa welcomed more than 2 500 new soldiers on Monday, 21 September 2026, after they successfully completed their basic military training at 3 South African Infantry Battalion (3 SAI) in the Northern Cape.

The passing-out parade, held on 11 September 2026, marked the end of months of tough joint basic

military training for the latest Military Skills Development System intake. And there's a historic twist for the first time ever, recruits from all four arms of service trained side by side at a single facility in Kimberley, building a stronger sense of unity under one banner.

These new soldiers step into the SANDF at a time when the military is under growing pressure to back up the police in crime hotspots across the country. That includes ongoing deployments in the Western Cape, where gang violence keeps rearing its ugly head despite boots on the ground. Premier Saul stood with the Minister in celebrating the recruits' achievement. Many of them come from different

corners of the country, with a healthy number calling the Northern Cape home.

The event also shone a light on the province's vital role as a key training hub for the SANDF. Getting such a large group through training successfully is expected to give the Defence Force a real boost in capacity, whether it's internal operations, border security or lending a hand to the South African Police Service.

As these new soldiers get ready to report for duty, the Northern Cape once again stands tall as a proud contributor to the nation's defence and security. The province keeps playing a central role in shaping the next generation of men and women in uniform.

Amajita eyeing Angola scalp in the COSAFA Cup



The South African U20 Men's National team looks to continue with the winning momentum when they take on Angola in the second match of Group B in the CAF U20 Men's Africa Cup of Nations COSAFA qualifiers currently underway in Mozambique.

The two nations face off on Monday (21 September) at the ABB 1 Stadium in Matola with a 15h00 kickoff. Both countries come into the fixture at the back of convincing victories in their opening games of the

tournament. South Africa brushed aside a spirited Lesotho 3-0 while Angola emerged triumphant in a 4-0 win over Eswatini.

“From what we have observed, Angola is the strongest team in our group. As today is Match Day-1 we went back to view the match against Lesotho and see where we could improve, and judging from the few minutes of today's training session the boys look sharp and if we take our chances against Angola we will do better.

This is a game we must win to progress to the semi-finals, but we know they are a good team, and we need to brace ourselves for a tough match,” said Amajita Head Coach Raymond Mdaka.

South Africa has been further boosted by the arrival of the duo of Emile Witbooi and Cayden Fortune who were unavailable against the Mountain Kingdom side due to club commitments. Their arrival brings the squad number to 23 and means that Mdaka and his technical team have a full complement of players to choose from for the rest of the tournament.

“We all know they have been part of the team from the word go but just a few logistics we had to sort out, and hopefully they will give us a plus in terms of the balance of the team. We know what Emile can do and just a little worry about the travelling, the rest after playing (for his club), but I think the few minutes that they will give us hopefully it will be something different or added value to what we did against Lesotho,” added Mdaka.

Eswatini will face Lesotho in the other Group B match.

Moment of silence at Hollywoodbets Super League matches



Hundreds of players, coaches and match officials observed a moment of silence before all the fixtures that were played in the Hollywoodbets Super League Amplified at the Oscar Mpetha Stadium at the University of Limpopo in Turfloop this past weekend.

South Africa has been rocked by murders and violence against women and children and the South African Football Association (SAFA) joined millions

around the country to call for an end to these incidents, saying: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

Meanwhile on the field of play Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies and JWV remain the only unbeaten teams in the league with both leading the two streams of the Hollywoodbets Super League Amplified – the SuperEra and the SuperRise respectively. The Brazilians notched up their eighth win on the trot

since the start of the season, as they won the Tshwane Derby.

Banyana ba Style beat neighbours Amatuks 3-0. With a game in hand, Sundowns Ladies have now scored 26 goals and are yet to concede. In the same stream, the University of the Western Cape (UWC) has shot to second position after five wins in a row without conceding, scoring 11 goals in the process. The students won the Western Cape Derby, defeating Stellenbosch FC 3-0, their third victory in succession by the same margin. Stellies remains the only team in the league yet to collect points after nine outings.

In other results, TS Galaxy Queens bounced back from back-to-back losses to register a 1-0 win over Copperbelt Ladies while Diepkloof Ladies and Richmond United played to a goalless stalemate. JWV still enjoys a five-point lead at the top of the SuperRise stream after collecting maximum points against City Lads Ladies in a 3-0 victory. The University of Fort Hare (UFH) are in second place following a 2-1 triumph against the University of Johannesburg, winning the Varsity Derby in the process.

In the same group, First Touch Ladies defeated TUT Ladies 1-0 while Ramatlaohle and shared the spoils in a 1-1 draw. The festival next moves to Qgeberha in the Eastern Cape.

Pixley ka Seme Cricket Association T20 League takes off



The Pixley ka Seme Cricket Association T20 League got off to an exciting start on 13 September 2026, with teams from Douglas and Prieska competing in the opening round.

Douglas Diamonds Cricket Club recorded a four-wicket victory over Calypso Cricket Club, while Calypso bounced back with a seven-wicket win over Douglas Correctional Cricket Club. In Prieska, Prieska Super Kings 1 defeated Griekwastad Cricket Club by 10 wickets.

De Aar Knights Cricket Club secured a 59-run victory over Prieska Super Kings 2. Super Kings 1 continued their impressive start with a seven-wicket victory over De Aar Knights.

Young Kimberley gymnast set for national stage in Bellville



By Katleho Malangabe

Kimberley

When they say Staatsies are built different, they mean learners like Onalenna McGuire. The young athlete from Laerskool Staats (Staats Primary School) is quickly becoming one of the Northern Cape’s brightest gymnastics talents, with a journey marked by consistent excellence, hard work and determination.

Onalenna first made her mark by taking first place at Level 04 during the Circuit Gymnastics Competition in Durban. She followed that up with another strong performance at the Northern Cape Qualifying Competition in Kimberley, where she proved her quality and earned her full Northern Cape colours.

Now the next chapter awaits as Onalenna will represent the Northern Cape at a prestigious national competition in Bellville, Cape Town, from 23 to 30 September 2026. Stepping onto that stage is a major achievement for any young athlete and reflects the hours of training, focus and support behind her success. Hard work.

Dedication and Determination – Those are her values. Her school community, coaches and family have played a big role in her progress and will be firmly behind her as she prepares for Cape Town. She told the Pixley Independent that to her this is more than just another competition. It is a chance to show the rest of the country what Northern Cape talent looks like when given the opportunity to shine. Onalenna is already a star – carrying the hopes of her school and province with quiet confidence and putting the Northern Cape on the map.

MEC Matika Hands Over Multi-Purpose Court in Richtersveld



Lekkersing

Sport, Arts and Culture MEC, Mr Mangaliso Matika, handed over a brand new multi-purpose Combi Court to the community of Lekkersing in the Richtersveld Local Municipality, Namakwa District, on Wednesday,

23 September 2026. MEC Matika also donated music equipment in Steinkopf and Port Nolloth as part of his department’s build-up towards the Provincial Heritage Day celebrations on 24 September. He was joined by Richtersveld Mayor, Cllr Cornell

Knoph, and other government officials. The multi-purpose Combi Court caters for basketball, netball, volleyball, tennis and five-a-side soccer, and will restore the dignity of local Eksteenfontein youth who have had to resort to dusty streets for sporting activities. Addressing the community, MEC Matika thanked Mayor Knoph for his dedication to serving the community.

He pledged that a local library would be painted and promised a sporting tournament on the new facility in three weeks. “You need not be discouraged that you are far from everything to have a dream in life. We serve at your behest,” MEC Matika said.

Matika challenged his colleagues in the Executive Council and the private sector to bring development and opportunities to the area, while urging the Eksteenfontein community to maintain and safeguard the facility.



MEC Motlhaping Hands Over 10 Houses in Onseepkans



Onseepkans

MEC for CoGHSTA, Lebogang Motlhaping, handed over 10 completed houses to beneficiaries at the Onseepkans 90 Housing Project in the Khâi-Ma Local Municipality, Namakwa District, on Monday.

Motlhaping was accompanied by Khâi-Ma Mayor, Cllr Estelle Cloete, and Council Speaker, Cllr Böck. The

project is one of 13 housing projects in Namakwa under the One-Billion-Rand Housing Project, aimed at expediting housing delivery, eradicating informal settlements and restoring dignity. "Today marks a significant milestone for some of the families of Onseepkans. Secure home ownership is more than just this beautiful brick and mortar structure; it is about restoring dignity, providing security to vulnerable households, and ensuring that our rural communities

receive their fair share of development," said Motlhaping.

Beneficiary Ms Cecilia Simon (56), a single mother of two who had been living in a frail reed structure, said: "For years, my family and I braved the harsh winds and heat inside a frail reed structure, but today my tears of struggle have turned into tears of pure joy. Holding the keys to my very own brick home feels like a dream come true." To promote sustainable communities, Motlhaping also led the planting of indigenous trees at the development. Mayor Cloete urged beneficiaries to protect their homes and not sell them for quick financial gain, saying the houses are an inheritance for their families.

The first phase of the One-Billion-Rand Housing Project will deliver 628 homes across Namakwa, with handovers continuing as houses are completed to prevent vandalism.



United Rovers defeat Ocean Swallows in nail-biting clash



The afternoon heat was heavy over the pitch, but the energy in the stands was electrifying. Every pass, every tackle, and every sprint brought the crowd to their feet. Ocean Swallows came out strong, soaring early with crisp passing and sharp attacks that put them ahead. Their confidence was soaring, but United Rovers refused to back down.

With fierce determination and relentless pressure,

the Rovers began to turn the tide, hunting down every loose ball and snatching control of the game away from their opponents. When the final whistle blew, the scoreboard locked in a hard-fought 2–3 away victory for United Rovers.

It was a thrilling, edge-of-your-seat clash where relentless drive won the day!

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**FOR NEWS COVERAGE
IN THE NORTHERN CAPE**



**CONTACT:
KATLEHO MALANGABE
069 184 6640**

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