

impact

PAVING THE DIGITAL WAY

West Coast College, in partnership with the BankSETA and the Western Cape Education Department (WCED), recently hosted 14 Grade 12 learners from Proteus Technical High School for a transformative digital literacy and skills training programme at its Atlantis Campus. On the photo are the learners together with some of the school and college staff.



READ MORE ON PAGE **7**

Atlantis man wants answers after name 'disappears' from housing waiting list

STORY ON PAGE **3**

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VOORAAD HOU!

Biblioteek en inwoners span saam op Mandela Dag

● COURTNEY ARENDSE

Die Mamre Biblioteek is beslis nie net meer 'n plek waar die gemeenskap hul intellek voed nie, maar ook waar honger magies nou en dan gevul kan word. Verlede maand het die biblioteek in samewerking met Raadslid Allister Lightburn, Jonathan Samuels, sy ma en die Mamre Kliniek Mandela Dag op 'n betekenisvolle manier gevier deur sop, brood en pannekoek aan die gemeenskap uit te deel. Alles is uit eie sak moontlik gemaak. Lightburn en die kliniek het brood geskenk, terwyl Samuels en sy ma die sop voorberei, en ook pannekoek gemaak het. Lightburn het ook 20 komberse aan talle senior burgers oorhandig, wie baie in hulle skik was met die welkome geskenk.



Golden Arrow busfares up since Monday



Golden Arrow Bus Services (GABS) has announced an average fare increase of 4%, set to have taken effect from Monday, 11 August 2025. This adjustment comes in response to escalating operational costs and forms part of the company's interim contract with the Western Cape provincial government, which allows for such fare revisions when necessary to ensure service sustainability.

In a statement, GABS acknowledged the financial pressures many commuters face and reiterated its commitment to balancing affordability with operational viability. "We are fully mindful of the financial challenges faced by our passenger. Over the past few years, we have made every effort to delay annual fare increases, extending well beyond the traditional December timeline," the company said. GABS notably postponed a fare hike in December 2023, absorbing the rising costs until April 2024, and again held off implementing the expected increase in December 2024. However,

continued cost increases across the supply chain have made further delays unsustainable. They assured passengers that these increases are a last resort and essential to maintaining reliable and safe public transport services in the Western Cape. They encouraged commuters are encouraged to take advantage of the GABS Gold Card, a once-off purchase priced at R40, which offers significant savings through discounted fare products; by using five-ride, weekly, or monthly tickets, passengers can save up to 45% compared to cash fares, and pensioners will pay R78.50 for their discounted tickets. For commuters travelling between Atlantis and Cape Town, a single trip will cost R2 more per trip, the weekly clip-card will rise from R382.50 to R398.00, and the monthly ticket will increase from R1,683 to R1,751.

For a complete list of updated fares, passengers are encouraged to contact the Transport Information Centre at 0800 65 64 63.

Plaaslike inwoners gevra om nuwe sonkrag-aanleg te doop

Die Stad Kaapstad doen 'n beroep op Atlantis-inwoners om te help met die naam-keuse vir sy heel eerste sonkragaanleg, wat tans byna voltooi is in die area. Die gekose naam moet die mense, gemeenskap en gees van Atlantis weerspieël. Die kompetisie is oop vir alle inwoners van Atlantis, ongeag ouderdom, en die wenner sal genooi word om die aanleg se amptelike inwyding aan die einde

van 2025 by te woon. Inskrywings kan aanlyn gedoen word by www.capetown.gov.za/AtlantisSolar. Alternatiewelik kan dit persoonlik by die Subraad 1-kantore, Avondale Biblioteek of Wesfleur Biblioteek ingedien word. Inskrywings sluit op 31 Augustus 2025.

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Housing waiting-list: family wants answers after 28-year wait

● PETER LATEGAN & MAXI VAN WILLINGH

The Western Cape's housing system is in crisis — not only in its ability to deliver homes, but in its failure to deliver justice to thousands of families living in inhumane conditions. Without urgent reform and honest accountability, the wait will only get longer — and deadlier. This is the general sentiment amongst many politicians, professionals, social activists and others.

For Adrian Witbooi (46) of Atlantis, the dream of homeownership has been a 28-year struggle. He joined the City of Cape Town's housing waiting list in 1997, yet today he, his wife Georgina, and their two children aged 16 and 9, still share a single bedroom in his mother-in-law's three-bedroom home in Protea Park. The overcrowded house is also home to his brother-in-law and fiancée.

"In my twenties, I confidently applied for a house. But while others who applied alongside me received homes in Extension 12 more than a decade ago, I'm still waiting," Witbooi says. Although he spent a few years working in Johannesburg, he kept the City updated with his contact details. "I want answers, as there seems to be no record of my application on the City's housing waiting list," he says. The suggestion to reapply for a house leaves him feeling disheartened, as it implies a further lengthy wait ahead. He is deeply concerned about the future for his children.

Unfortunately, Witbooi's story is far from unique. The National Coloured Congress (NCC) has also raised serious concerns over the ongoing housing crisis, particularly in communities like Atlantis "It's heartbreaking to see grandmothers and elderly people still living in backyards after 20 to 30 years on the

list. Some die before ever receiving the homes they were promised," says the party's Anastatia Davids. Davids says residents have reported serious irregularities in the housing system — from younger or newer applicants being prioritised, to disturbing cases where people receive SMS notifications with an address, only to arrive and find someone else already living there. "There is growing talk of queue-jumping and even bribes paid to officials. Our leader, Fadiel Adams, has formally requested access to the housing database in Parliament — but has yet to receive a response. That silence is telling. People shouldn't have to 'know someone' to get a house. This is about fairness, transparency, and dignity."

Witbooi's father-in-law, Marcus, was also on the waiting list. When he passed away four years ago, the family had hoped that his daughter would be able to claim his spot, as her father had named her as the beneficiary. Unfortunately, they have been informed by officials that this is not permissible, which came as yet another significant setback for them. Marcus had waited until his death for a home, having lived in someone else's house in for most of his adult life.

The urgent need for stable housing weighs heavily on Witbooi, in addition to securing a reliable job. With his wife currently serving as the breadwinner, he feels a deep sense of sadness for not being able to contribute financially. To address this, he started an informal business doing renovations, plumbing and painting. However, there are times when he struggles to find work for months. "Despite these setbacks, I remain hopeful," he said.



-ANASTATIA DAVIDS



-ADRIAN WITBOOI

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PUBLIC LEGAL ANNOUNCEMENT



If the owners of the following vehicles does not collect their vehicles by Friday 22August 2025, same will be sold to defray storage costs.

Contact Auto Champs Recovery Services on 073 788 8433

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PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF THE 2025/26 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SDBIP)

Notice is hereby given that in terms of section 53(3)(a) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA), Act 56 of 2003, the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) for the 2025/26 financial year as well as the directorate executive summaries and scorecards will be available on the City’s website from 8 August 2025 at www.capetown.gov.za/idp.

In terms of the MFMA, the SDBIPs are to be made public by Friday 8 August 2025 up until Tuesday 30 September 2025.

Copies will be made available for perusal at the main municipal administrative buildings, all subcouncil offices (listed below) and all municipal libraries on weekdays between 08:30 and 16:30.

The following table contains a list of venues where the documents will be available for perusal:

SUBCOUNCIL	ADDRESS
Subcouncil 1	Municipal Offices, cnr Grosvenor and Hermes Avenue, Saxonsea, Atlantis
Subcouncil 2	Municipal Offices, Brighton Road, Kraaifontein
Subcouncil 3	Milnerton Municipal Building, First Floor, Royal Ascot, Bridle Way, Milnerton
Subcouncil 4	Parow Municipal Building, 1st Floor, cnr Voortrekker Road and Tallent Street, Parow
Subcouncil 5	Kuilsrivier Municipal Building, 2nd Floor, Cnr Carinus Street and Van Riebeeck Road, Kuilsrivier
Subcouncil 6	Bellville Municipal Offices, Voortrekker Road, Bellville
Subcouncil 7	Durbanville Municipal Complex, cnr Oxford and Queen Streets, Durbanville
Subcouncil 8	Municipal Offices, cnr Fagan Street and Main Road, Strand
Subcouncil 9	Site B, cnr Bonga and Sulani Drive, Khayelitsha Shopping Centre, Khayelitsha
Subcouncil 10	Khayelitsha Training Centre, cnr Lwandle Road and Phendula Crescent, Khayelitsha
Subcouncil 11	Dulcie September Minor Hall, Athlone Civic Centre, cnr Klipfontein Road and Protea Street, Athlone
Subcouncil 12	Lentegeur Administrative Building, cnr Melkbos and Merrydale Roads, Lentegeur
Subcouncil 13	Fezeka Building, cnr Steve Biko Drive and Lansdowne Road, Gugulethu
Subcouncil 14	Kuilsrivier Municipal Building, 2nd Floor, Cnr Carinus Street and Van Riebeeck Road, Kuilsriver
Subcouncil 15	Bonteheuwel Municipal Building, cnr Jakkalsvlei Avenue and Kiaat Road, Bonteheuwel
Subcouncil 16	11th Floor, 44 Wale Street, Cape Town
Subcouncil 17	Lentegeur Administrative Building, cnr Merrydale and Melkbos Roads, Lentegeur
Subcouncil 18	Cnr Buck Road and 6th Avenue, Lotusrivier
Subcouncil 19	Municipal Offices, Central Circle, off Recreation Road, Fish Hoek
Subcouncil 20	Alphen Centre, Constantia Main Road, Constantia
All libraries:	Click on www.capetown.gov.za/libraries
Cape Town:	Concourse, Civic Centre, Hertzog Boulevard, Cape Town
South Peninsula:	Municipal Offices, cnr Main and Victoria Roads, Plumstead

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PRE-APPLICATION BAR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A SHOPPING CENTRE ON PORTION 16 OF FARM KLEIN DASSENBERG 20, ATLANTIS, CAPE TOWN

Notice is hereby given of a public participation process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

Proposal: The proposal entails the rezoning and subdivision of Portion 16 of Farm Klein Dassenberg 20, Atlantis for the purposes of developing a shopping centre.

Applicant: Velaskar Property Development (Pty) Ltd.

An environmental authorisation is required in terms of the EIA Regulations for the following listed activities:

1. GOVERNMENT NOTICE R327 OF 2017: LISTING NOTICE 1 - ACTIVITIES 10, 27 AND 28 AND; 2. GOVERNMENT NOTICE R324 OF 2017: LISTING NOTICE 2 - ACTIVITIES 4 AND 12.

Comment Period: The Pre-Application Basic Assessment Report will be available from 13 August to 15 September 2025. The report can be accessed online at <https://www.ecos-consulting.co.za> or alternatively it will be available at the Witsand Resource Centre.

Opportunity to Participate: Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register and comment on this proposal. To register or submit a comment, I&APs must provide their name, contact details, and preferred method of communication in writing to the contact persons listed below. Additionally, I&APs must disclose any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest they may have in the proposal. Early registration in the PPP is encouraged to ensure participants receive updates. Further communications regarding the process will be sent only to registered I&APs.

COMMENTS MUST REACH US BY 15 SEPTEMBER 2025.

Contact Details: ECOS Consulting (Pty) Ltd - Attention: Peter Harmse, 106 Murray Street, Goodwood, 7460
Email: environmental@ecos-consulting.co.za
Contact: Peter: 073 407 3674 or Wiesaal: 068 163 6729



CALL TO NOMINATE REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON SPATIAL PLANNING COLLECTIVES AT SUBCOUNCILS

The City’s Urban Planning and Design (UPD) Department has initiated a programme to educate, empower, and engage community stakeholders about our spatial planning policies and processes. It will kick off in October 2025 within the 20 subcouncils in Cape Town.

The aim is to:

- Establish a dedicated platform for each subcouncil to meet with stakeholders about spatial planning and development related matters in their areas
- Inform, educate, and provide training to representatives so that they can have a better understanding of spatial planning and how these policies impact their neighbourhoods

Community organisations with a direct interest in spatial planning and associated processes are invited to nominate one member to represent them on Spatial Planning collective groups, which will be based at the subcouncils.

Submit nominations by checking the selection criteria and completing the application form as follows:

- Online at www.capetown.gov.za/planningcollective
- At subcouncil offices for hard copy documents

The closing date for submissions is 14 September 2025.

The UPD Department will assess the nominations and finalise the list of participants to serve in the respective collectives. Nominated representatives must be available for training on three Saturdays from October to early December 2025 and participate in regular local collective meetings.

For queries about the Spatial Planning collectives, email spatialplanning.collective@capetown.gov.za or phone 0860 103 089 and request a call back.

LUNGELO MBANDAZAYO
CITY MANAGER
CTA155/2025



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD

Making progress possible. Together.

Awards event celebrates resilience of young, local entrepreneurs

● STAFF REPORTER



The Atlantis Creative Hub (ACH), in proud partnership with the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA), Impact News, BPS, and other local stakeholders, hosted the highly anticipated Youth Entrepreneur Awards Ceremony 2025 on Thursday, 24 July.

The elegant black-tie event, held at the Saxonsea Civic Centre, celebrated the achievements of ten exceptional young entrepreneurs across various industries. The evening, co-hosted by Aviwe Ngabom and ACH director René Haruna, was a powerful tribute to the resilience, creativity, and determination of local youth in business. In their welcome remarks, William Konstabel (CEO at ACH) and Angelique Simon, Business Advisor at SEDFA, underscored the importance of recognising and supporting young entrepreneurs. "This event is about more than awards — it's about igniting potential and creating

a community that uplifts youth innovation," said Konstabel. A panel discussion consisting of professionals and youth leaders discussed themes such as sustainability, innovation, and the importance of mentorship in entrepreneurial growth. The evening also featured a powerful keynote address by Charlene Ainslie, who inspired the audience with a heartfelt message on unlocking potential through perseverance and vision.

Guests then enjoyed a gourmet dinner and a soulful live performances, setting the stage for the night's highlight — the awards ceremony itself. Ten dynamic young entrepreneurs were recognised across a range of categories, including Innovative Entrepreneur of the Year, Social Impact, Creative Industry, Tech and Digital Innovation, Best Startup, Sustainability & Eco-Friendly Business, Young Leader in Business, Customer Excellence, Resilient

Entrepreneur, and Diverse Ability Business Excellence. Each winner received a comprehensive support package that includes business development services from SEDFA. In addition, Impact Unlimited Media and Communication (publishers of Impact News), sponsored marketing support and strategic brand exposure packages totalling well over R150,000.

"As part of our partnership with ACH and several other youth-based organisations, we are proud to contribute to this initiative. This package is more than exposure, it's our investment in local entrepreneurship. When small businesses thrive, communities rise. We're honoured to walk this journey with these young changemakers," said Peter Lategan, director and editor of Impact News. Simon explained that her organisation played a central role in the awards process — from identifying deserving

youth entrepreneurs and facilitating applications, to adjudicating entries against strict criteria. "As part of our commitment to fairness and development, we also secured Business Support Vouchers for the Top 10 finalists, valued between R10,000 and R15,000 each," she said. SEDFA's model of engagement goes beyond one-off recognition. Through strategic partnerships and long-term business advisory support, they ensure youth entrepreneurs are nurtured well beyond award ceremonies. Additionally, all applicants — regardless of whether they received an award — will continue receiving advisory and developmental support.

Happy Women's Month
FROM EVERYONE AT IMPACT NEWS





SWIFT ARRESTS: Last Friday 8 August 2025, information was received of a firearm that was kept at a house in Saxonsea where drugs were being sold. At approximately 10:40 the premises was searched with the permission of the owner. After an intensive search the firearm was found buried in the yard with 10 live rounds. The owner, together with two other males and one female, were arrested by members of the Crime Prevention Unit, pictured above.

15-year-old caught with firearm

When members attached to the Reaction Team at the Atlantis Police received information from an informer on Sunday 3 August 2025 at 21:00, they immediately jumped into action.

They were told that a male person was sitting by a fire in Eaglest Nest Flats, Robinvale, in possession of an unlicensed fire-arm. When the

police arrived at the address, the suspect tried to run away, but the police caught the 15-year-old and found a silver pistol on him, with the serial number removed. The station commander, Colonel Thyse extended his gratitude to members of the public who assist in providing information to rid the streets of illegal firearms.



From left to right is Constable Carlton Vollmer, Sergeant Grant Dyason, Constable Jamie-Lee Cyster and Constable Camon Engelbrecht, all members of the Reaction Unit.



If this is what you do, we want to work with you!
We are looking for :

PRESENTERS / PODCASTERS / PRODUCERS

Frontline voice and face of various media productions, including podcasts, interviews, and community features. Also responsible for scripting and producing audio or video content.

- Key Responsibilities:**
- Host podcast episodes, interviews, or on-camera segments.
 - Research topics, write scripts, and plan show formats.
 - Coordinate production schedules and liaise with guests.
 - Work closely with editors and videographers to produce quality content.

- Ideal Candidate:**
- Confident speaker with a good presence, voice, and ability to connect with audiences.
 - Curious, articulate, and passionate about telling local stories.
 - Organized, with the ability to lead a small production team.

VIDEOGRAPHERS / FILM-MAKERS

Responsible for planning, filming, and editing visual content for various projects at The Exchange. This includes documentaries, community stories, event coverage, and creative short videos.

- Key Responsibilities:**
- Capture high-quality video footage of community events, interviews, and creative productions.
 - Collaborate with producers, presenters, and editors on storytelling.
 - Operate camera equipment, sound, and lighting gear.
 - Organize and archive raw footage for editing.

- Ideal Candidate:**
- Has experience in filming, editing, and directing short-form or long-form content.
 - Passionate about visual storytelling and community impact.

VIDEO EDITORS

Works with the production team to edit raw footage into polished and engaging video content for digital and social platforms.

- Key Responsibilities:**
- Edit video content using professional software
 - Add music, voiceovers, graphics, and effects where needed.
 - Ensure final outputs are broadcast or web-ready.
 - Maintain the creative style and tone of The Exchange brand.

- Ideal Candidate:**
- Strong technical editing skills with a creative eye for detail.
 - Experience with storytelling through video and sound.
 - Knowledge of exporting for social media, YouTube, and mobile platforms.

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Manages and grows the online presence of The Exchange across all social platforms. Responsible for planning, creating, and posting content, engaging the audience, and tracking performance.

- Key Responsibilities:**
- Develop and implement a content calendar.
 - Create and schedule posts across Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and others.
 - Engage with followers, respond to messages, and monitor online feedback.
 - Collaborate with the media team to promote new content and events.
 - Analyze and report on social media metrics and trends.
- Ideal Candidate:**
- Strong understanding of social media tools, trends, and audiences.
 - Creative thinker who can generate engagement and community buzz.
 - Skilled in using design tools (e.g., Canva) and scheduling platforms.

SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCERS

Acts as a digital ambassador for The Exchange, using their personal style, creativity, and audience reach to promote our projects, events, and campaigns across social platforms.

- Key Responsibilities:**
- Create authentic, engaging content (photos, videos, stories, and reels) that aligns with The Exchange mission.
 - Collaborate with the social media manager and production team on campaign ideas.
 - Attend and promote events, interviews, and media projects.
 - Track engagement and provide feedback on content performance.

- Ideal Candidate:**
- Active presence on multiple social media platforms (Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, YouTube).
 - Creative and comfortable in front of the camera.
 - Strong communication skills and ability to connect with different audiences.
 - Passionate about community impact, youth development, and storytelling

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Captures impactful images that tell the stories of our community, events, and people for use on all The Exchange online platforms, and social media channels.

- Key Responsibilities:**
- Photograph news events, interviews, and community activities.
 - Work closely with reporters, editors, and the social media team to visually enhance stories.
 - Edit and prepare photographs for print and digital publication.

- Ideal Candidate:**
- Experience in photojournalism or event photography.
 - Strong eye for composition, storytelling, and detail.
 - Passionate about community stories and visual journalism.



Interested? Please send an email, together with your CV or portfolio to newsroom@impactunlimited.co.za

Carol: Women are no damsels in distress

● MEGAN MAVOSA

Carol Koopman (45) from Atlantis is a woman working in a predominantly male environment, where her advice is often second-guessed. She often overcomes this by not taking it personally and staying consistent.

Koopman works in the construction industry, having spent 15 years in tiles and is currently working in hardware. "Men at times second-guess the advice I provide. Construction bosses shout at me over the phone when I question their work, and hang up the phone in my ear." Working in such an environment as a woman is not easy, but Koopman loves fixing problems. Apart from her job, she is also known in the community as a fixer and helper of a different kind. She is one of the founding members of Teenz Alive SA. "We are a very hands-on team, and I'm actively involved in supporting our young people in whatever way they need – emotionally, spiritually, and practically. Whether it's through mentorship, coordination of events, or simply being present, I work closely with the team to ensure that every young person we engage with

has a chance to grow and thrive," she said. Koopman is a gender-based violence survivor, and for years, she felt ashamed of what happened to her when she was younger. When she started speaking openly about her experiences, the shame turned to strength. She now uses her ordeal to help others one-on-one and even on larger platforms. "I've also come to understand that it wasn't my fault, and that I didn't ask for it to happen to me."

At work, she has always picked up boxes of tiles weighing 36kg, 20kg bags of tile cement, and nowadays it's 20-litre paint drums or loading a 40kg bag of *Cretestone* onto a trolley by herself. She never allows gender-related challenges at the workplace to get her down. "To my beautiful and strong ladies out there, don't ever be seen as the damsel in distress. I understand that as women, we can't do absolutely everything men do, but we can certainly do most things."



College helps Proteus learners on digital skills journey

West Coast College, in partnership with the BankSETA and the Western Cape Education Department (WCED), recently hosted 14 Grade 12 learners from Proteus Technical High School for a transformative digital literacy and skills training programme at its Atlantis Campus.

The two-week Skills Development Initiative (SDI), funded by BankSETA, aimed to enhance ICT proficiency and work readiness by equipping learners with critical digital skills aligned with the demands of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). This initiative not only supported

the academic development of learners but also prepared them to navigate the challenges of a rapidly evolving digital economy. During the programme, learners gained hands-on experience in Coding, Robotic Processes, Data Science and Software Programming. "The training sessions that took place here have not only empowered learners with valuable digital skills aligned with the 4IR, but also demonstrated the incredible potential of collaboration between basic and higher education. This initiative is a shining example of what can be achieved when we work together to address the skills shortage, particularly in the ever-evolving digital space," said Lungisa

Mbulawa, West Coast College Principal. André Muller, acting Deputy Principal for Innovation and Development added: "This is the first and will definitely not be the last of such initiatives that the College would like to partner with Proteus on, and we look forward to more such engagements in future."

The journey concluded with a closing ceremony at the College's Central Office in Malmesbury, where the achievements and growth of the learners were celebrated.

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impact
NEWS

Mamre se Judo-sterre van die bestes in Suid Afrika

● COURTNEY ARENDSE



MAMRE SE BESTE: Bo van links na regs staan Sensei Quinn Okkers, Keithan Hahn (12), Maxine Goliath (17) by Melanie September, die klub se stigter en huidige bestuurder. Op die foto links staan Keithan op die wenner-podium.

Drie van Mamre se opkomende Judo-sterre het hul dorp en klub met trots verteenwoordig tydens die Suid-Afrikaanse Judo Kampioenskappe wat verlede maand in Pretoria plaasgevind het. Hierdie prestasies is 'n ware bron van trots vir die plaaslike gemeenskap.

Sensei Quinn Okkers, Maxine Goliath (17) en Keithan Hahn (12), lede van die Mamre Judo Klub, het deur hul harde werk en toewyding gekwalifiseer om aan dié gesogte nasionale byeenkoms deel te neem. Die klub is jare gelede gestig deur Melanie September en het oor die jare heen al 'n sterk naam opgebou. Die atlete het reeds in 2023 aan die kampioenskap in Bloemfontein deelgeneem en hulself bewys teen die land se beste. Sedertdien het hulle onophoudelik geoefen; hul

vaardighede geslyp en deelgeneem aan kwalifiserende toernooie regoor die Wes-Kaap. Dié harde werk het duidelik vrugte afgewerp. Okkers het die goud gewen in die Meesters-afdeling onder 65kg en is nou amptelik nommer 1 in Suid-Afrika. Hy kwalifiseer ook vir sy Suid-Afrikaanse kampioenskapskler, 'n groot eer. Keithan Hahn het in die pre-kadette-afdeling onder 34kg 'n silwermedalje verwerf en Maxine Goliath, wat in die kadette onder 63kg meegeding het, het 'n verdienstelike vierde plek behaal.

Volgens September, wie ook die bestuurder van die Weskus-span is, is hulle baie toegwyd, en hulle prestasie bewys dit. Die klub verwelkom kinders van so jonk as vyf jaar oud, wie begin in die speelgroep, en vanaf ses jaar oud leer hulle reeds die basiese tegnieke van Judo. Die

sport leer nie net selfverdediging nie, maar bevorder ook dissipline, respek en gesondheid. "Om te kwalifiseer vir die kampioenskappe was reeds 'n groot prestasie om goud te wen en as nommer een aangewys te word, is ongelooflik," het Okkers gesê. "Ek geniet dit om aan kompetisies deel te neem, want ek ontmoet mense van regoor die land," het Goliath, een van die senior lede, bygevoeg. Hahn stem saam en sê dat hy opgewonde was vir die uitdaging en dat hy baie trots is op sy tweede plek.

Vir Mamre, waar sport 'n belangrike rol speel in die jeug se ontwikkeling, is dit 'n merkwaardige prestasie om jong mense só ver te sien vorder. Judo is 'n positiewe uitlaatklep vir baie, maar dit kom nie sonder uitdagings nie. Een van die grootste struikelblokke vir die klub is steeds finansiering. Die atlete en hul

gesinne dra tans al die kostes self van reiskostes tot toerusting. Enige vorm van ondersteuning of borgskap sal nie net waardeur word nie, maar ook 'n groot verskil maak in die lewens van hierdie jong kampioene. Die klub moedig ook enige jong persoon aan om aan te sluit deur vir Melanie September by 066 215 8084 te kontak. Andersins kan hulle elke Maandag en Woensdag om 17h00 inloer tydens die klub se oefensessies in die Mamre Gemeenskapsaal.

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