



On Saturday 9 May, dozens of local firefighters joined members of the community at the Wesfleur Sportsground to honour and acknowledge the dedication and bravery of rescuers and firefighters, who risk their lives every day to protect and serve the community.

[READ MORE ON PAGE 7](#)

FAMILIES FACE UNCERTAIN FUTURE

300 jobs lost: Shock to local economy as factory shuts down

[STORY ON PAGE 2](#)

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Factory closure will leave 300 Atlantis families in distress

PETER LATEGAN

Automotive supplier ZF LIFETEC has confirmed it will shut down its manufacturing plant in Atlantis, dealing a major blow to the local economy and leaving around 300 employees facing retrenchment.

The closure follows years of mounting financial and operational pressures that made continued operations unsustainable, the company said in a statement. The plant, sized around 7,500 square metres, has been operating since 1997, and was called TRW Occupant Restraints before it was acquired by the ZF group in 2015.

They announced last week that operations at the plant will officially cease this Friday, 15 May 2026, following a lengthy CCMA-facilitated consultation process that began in October 2025. The consultations involved the National Union of Metalworkers in South Africa (NUMSA) and representatives of non-unionised employees in terms of Section 189A of the Labour Relations Act. A company spokesperson, Stephan Haas, said the consultation process has now “run its course”, with the company taking the final decision to terminate operations at the Atlantis facility.

The Atlantis plant manufactured three major automotive safety product categories, including airbag systems, seat belt systems and steering wheel systems. ZF LIFETEC is a global passive safety technology provider specialising in the

development and manufacturing systems designed to protect vehicle occupants. The company employs around 34,500 people globally and operates 49 facilities across 22 countries, with a market share of more than 20 percent in its core product categories. “The facility in Atlantis assembled three different product categories—air bag systems, seat belt systems and steering wheel systems. It had long faced significant cost pressures, insufficient customer demand, sourcing difficulties, and infrastructure-related disruptions in the South African automotive environment,” Haas said.

“Global geopolitical tensions and macro-economic issues, such as the introduction of unforeseen tariffs on exported vehicles, had further exacerbated these challenges and significantly impacted the industry. Despite multiple efficiency programmes introduced in recent years, the plant has been unable to achieve the economies of scale required to remain financially viable due to factors outside of the company’s control,” he explained.

The closure is also expected to have a severe socio-economic impact on Atlantis, an area already grappling with high unemployment levels and economic hardship. The company confirmed that severance packages will be provided to affected employees. “After the official closure on May 15, there will be a winding-down phase. Subsequent use of the plant has not yet been decided. We do not rule out the option of a sale,” Haas said.





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New online support group tailored for women



Over the past year, 53% of substance use-related calls to the South African Depression and Anxiety Group (SADAG) helpline have come from women, highlighting a growing need for support tailored to their experiences.

Many women face substance use alongside anxiety, depression, trauma, and daily pressures. In response, a new support group for women navigating substance use and recovery was launched last Thursday, 7 May 2026. The group will meet online on the first and third Thursday of every month via *Jitsi*, a simple, low-data platform that requires no registration or fees. For many, substance use begins as a way to cope with difficult emotions, but can gradually impact daily life.

"Women who use substances are often judged and excluded. Many fear losing their jobs, their children, or their homes, so they avoid seeking help. At the same time, they face high levels of violence, abuse and trauma, with substance use often becoming a coping mechanism," says the support group leader." SADAG Substance Abuse

Coordinator Tebogo Ramadiro says addressing mental health is key to recovery. "When mental health is not addressed, substance use often continues as a way to cope with distress. Supporting women with emotional regulation and healthier coping strategies can reduce the risk of relapse," she says.

Women already participating in support groups say the impact is meaningful. "When you are dealing with substance abuse as well as anxiety or depression, it can feel very lonely. This is not just another group to me, it is a place of hope," said one of the members. The group offers a safe, supportive space for women at any stage of their recovery journey.

*** For more information, contact Yolande on 073 867 4360, or visit www.sadag.org to explore other support groups. If you or someone you know needs help, WhatsApp 087 163 2025 or call 0800 12 13 14 to request a callback from a SADAG counsellor.

Restructured CSN commits to 'get its house in order'



- The current CSN representatives are front FLTR: Rene Ryk, Saul Smith and Joy Davids-Clayton. Back: FLTR Fabian Williams, Steven Alberts, Theunis Mack and Melvern Oliphant. Absent: Zibongile Gexa

Last month, the Atlantis Community Stakeholder Network (CSN) announced a major restructuring process aimed at restoring stability and improving its engagement with the community, following a period marked by internal challenges, complaints and resignations.

An organisation spokesperson said that new office bearers were elected at the beginning of March after a process that included community consultation, sector-based co-opting and the adoption of an amended constitution and terms of reference. They acknowledged that rebuilding the organisation has not been easy, citing limited community participation during the restructuring phase. Despite this, it says significant progress has been made in getting "its house in order". A key focus going forward is improved communication and visibility, which will allow residents to access information quickly and interact directly with representatives.

In addition, a structured meeting system will be introduced, including sector committee meetings, sector representation meetings and office bearer meetings. These are intended to improve coordination, address community issues more effectively and ensure that sector-specific concerns are formally raised and discussed. They said queries must be directed through sector representatives rather than office bearers. Monthly meetings between the CSN and the Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ) will also continue, serving as a platform for aligning decisions, presenting community concerns and engaging on sensitive matters.

Several key sector positions, including arts and culture, schools, higher education, and environment and infrastructure, remain vacant. The CSN has called on interested parties to consider being co-opted through their respective sector committees.



WESTERN CAPE
LIQUOR AUTHORITY

IMPORTANT NOTICE

FORM 3A - NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR LICENCES IN TERMS OF SECTION 37(1) OF THE WESTERN CAPE LIQUOR ACT, 2008 - [REG. 10(1)]

Notice is hereby given that the following applications for liquor licences have been lodged with the Western Cape Liquor Authority (the Authority) and with the designated liquor officers at the indicated South African Police Service offices. The applications concerned may, up to and including the 28th day from the date of publication of the application, upon request and free of charge, be inspected by any person, at the offices of the Authority or the designated liquor officer listed hereunder. Copies of an application can be obtained from the Authority after payment of the prescribed fee. Objections and representations must be lodged in writing with the Authority and the designated liquor officer in accordance with section 39 of the Act.

VORM 3A - KENNISGEWING VAN AANSOEKE OM DRANKLISENSIES INGEVOLGE ARTIKEL 37(1) VAN DIE WES-KAAPSE DRANKWET, 2008 - [REG. 10(1)]

Hiermee word kennis gegee dat die volgende aansoeke om dranklisensies ingedien is by die Wes-Kaapse Drankowerheid (die Owerheid) en by die aangewese drankbeampes by die aangeduide Suid-Afrikaanse Polisiedienskantore. Die betrokke aansoeke kan, tot en met die 28ste dag vanaf die datum van publikasie van die aansoek, op versoek en gratis deur enige persoon besigtig word by die kantore van die Owerheid of die aangewese drankbeampes hieronder gelys. Afskrifte van 'n aansoek kan by die Owerheid verkry word na betaling van die voorgeskrewe fooi. Besware en verhoë moet ooreenkomstig artikel 39 van die Wet skriftelik by die Owerheid en die aangewese drankbeampes ingedien word.

IFOMU 3A - ISAZISO SOKUFAKWA KWESICELO SEPHEPHA MVUME NGOKWECANDELO 37(1) LOMTHETHO WOTYWALA WENTSHONA KOLONI KA - 2008 [UMGAQO 10(1)]

Isaziso siyanikezelwa ukuba ezi zicelo zilandelayo zamaphepha mvume otywala zifakiwe kwabasemaGunyeni ezoTywala eNtshona Koloni (abasemaGunyeni) nakumagosa ajongene nemiba engotywala kwii-ofisi ezixeliweyo zeeNkonzo zamaPolisa aseMzantsi Afrika. Izicelo ekubhekiselelwa kuzo zingakwazi kwiintsuku ezingamashumi amabini anesibhozo (28) ukususela ngomhla wokupapashwa kwesi sicelo, xa eceliwe kwaye simahla, ziye kuhlolwa nguye nawuphi umntu okwi-Ofisi esemaGunyeni okanye yegosa elijongene nemiba engotywala elixelwe apha ngezantsi. Iikopi zesicelo zingafumaneka kwabasemaGunyeni emva kwentlawulo emiselweyo. Uchaso neengxelo ezixhasayo ezibhaliweyo zingafakwa kwabasemaGunyeni nakwigosa elijongene nemiba engotywala ngokwecandelo 39 loMthetho.

No.	Full name of applicant Volle naam van aansoeker Igama elipheleleyo lomfaki-sicelo	Name under which business will be conducted Naam waaronder besigheid bedryf sal word Igama ishishini eza kushishina phantsi kwalo	Address of the proposed premises Adres van die voorgename perseel Idilesi yesakhiwo	Kind of licence applied for Tipe lisensie waarom aansoek gedoen word Uhlobo lwephepha mvume olucelayo	South African Police Services designated liquor officer office where the application has been lodged Suid-Afrikaanse Polisiediens-kantoor van die aangewese drankbeampes waar die aansoek ingedien is i-Ofisi yeGosa elijongene nemiba engotywala yeeNkonzo zamaPolisa eMzantsi Afrika apho isicelo sifakwe khona
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Internasionale Werkersdag: Druk al hoe groter op veral werkers oor stygende brandstofpryse

COURTNEY ARENDSE

Die 1ste Mei word wêreldwyd gevier as Internasionale Werkersdag. Dis 'n dag wat die stryd van werkers vir regverdigheid en beter werksomstandighede herdenk, veral tydens die apartheids-era toe vakbonde en werkers saam geveg het vir basiese regte. Ná 1994 is hierdie dag amptelik in Suid-Afrika erken om dié geskiedenis te eer.

Maar vandag ervaar baie werkers nog steeds verskeie uitdagings. In die huidige ekonomiese klimaat, met stygende petrolpryse, moet werkers op 'n daaglikse basis lang afstande na hul werk reis. Die onlangse skokkende styging in brandstofpryse raak almal op verskillende maniere en plaas egter ekstra druk op hul inkomste. Lyle Adonis van Darling werk in Montague Gardens as 'n verkoopsverteenvoerder. "Ek moet elke oggend om 05h00 opstaan om by die werk te kom, en dit is sowat 'n uur se ry. Alhoewel ek deel is van 'n saamryklub, moet ek steeds 'n groot gedeelte van my salaris aan vervoer bestee. Ek het egter nie 'n

keuse nie. Of die petrolprys styg of daal, ek moet by die werk uitkom. Ek is die broodwinner in die huis, so ek moet sorg."

Ureece Baartman van Atlantis werk as waarnemende bestuursassistent in Sandown. Buiten sy werk het hy ook sy eie besigheid en is ook 'n deeltydse model. "Tussen 10% en 12% van my salaris gaan aan vervoer. Die feit dat werksure moontlik verkort word, is nog iets wat ek in ag moet neem. Baie van ons verdien minimum loon en met stygende petrolpryse beteken dit ek moet meer in my persoonlike besigheid insit. Die druk raak al hoe groter," sê Baartman.

Janine Passenz, die direkteur van Survivors Haven in Mamre, sê om met die MyCiTi-busse te reis is baie duur wanneer jy in die stad werk. "Jy sit in busse waar dit inreën en dit voel asof jy buite sit. Dit is verskriklik. Wanneer jy 'n taxi neem, moet jy deesdae eers vra wat die rit kos voordat jy in klim. Ten spyte hiervan doen ons waarvoor ons lief



is, deur ons gemeenskap te dien. Ongelukkig waardeer nie almal die werk wat jy doen of die moeite wat daarmee gepaard gaan nie," meen sy. Mauricia Humphreys van Mamre, 'n konsultant vir 'n mediese skema in Woodstock, sê sy werk tans van die huis af, maar toe sy deel was van 'n saamryklub, het dit baie gehelp. "Ongeveer 10% van my salaris het aan petrol gegaan, en ek moes boonop elke week my tenk volmaak. Salarisse bly dieselfde terwyl koste styg, en ek dink meer mense behoort van die huis af te werk."

HAVE YOUR SAY!

DRAFT ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY

Every road user deserves to travel safely; whether they're walking, cycling, using public transport or driving. Road safety affects communities, families and the everyday journey across Cape Town. The City of Cape Town ("the City") invites you to comment on the draft Road Safety Strategy (RSS), it's a guiding document which sets out the City's approach to improving road safety.

The strategy provides a coordinated framework for identifying priorities, guiding interventions, and informing decision-making related to road safety planning, implementation and monitoring.

The City is responsible for leading the development, coordination and oversight of road safety initiatives in line with the Road Safety Strategy. The previous Road Safety Strategy covered the period up to 2018. An updated strategy is now being developed to reflect current conditions and emerging road safety challenges, ensuring continued improvement and alignment with evolving needs.

The draft Road Safety Strategy was developed through a collaborative process that included the 2023 "Call for Ideas: Road Safety Campaign", aimed at gathering public insights and perceptions on road safety in Cape Town. The campaign generated over 3,000 public comments, all of which were carefully considered and informed the development of the Road Safety Strategy.

Notice:
In terms of section 17 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000, the public and interested parties or groups are given the opportunity to submit comments, recommendations or input on this Strategy to the municipality from **Friday, 8 May to Monday, 8 June 2026.**

Comments, recommendations or inputs can be submitted by:
Email: roadsafetyCT@capetown.gov.za (quote reference 110252617)
Online: Scan the QR code to submit your comments digitally
Visit www.capetown.gov.za/haveyoursay or www.capetown.gov.za/collaborate
Written submissions: Forms for written submissions can be obtained from your nearest Subcouncil office or City library

The draft Road Safety Strategy and the executive summary will be available for viewing at:

- The City's website: www.capetown.gov.za/haveyoursay and www.capetown.gov.za/collaborate
- All Subcouncil offices and City libraries.

The City's Public Participation Unit will assist those who cannot read or write, live with disabilities or who are from disadvantaged groups and unable to submit written comments. Contact Zandile Mahlasela on 021 400 5501 or Zandile.Mahlasela@capetown.gov.za.

For more information related to the draft strategy email roadsafetyCT@capetown.gov.za or contact the Solomzi Mdlangaso on 021 400 1401.

CITY OF CAPE TOWN

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LUNGELO MBANDAZAYO
CITY MANAGER
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Hantavirus outbreak sparks concern, but risk 'remains low' in SA

A recent cluster of hantavirus cases linked to a cruise ship travelling from South America has drawn international attention, but health authorities say the risk to the general public remains low.

Hantavirus is a rare disease caused by viruses carried mainly by rodents such as mice and rats. People become infected when they inhale particles from contaminated urine, droppings, or saliva.

The World Health Organization (WHO), says human-to-human transmission is extremely rare and has only been confirmed for certain strains in limited settings. International health authorities have confirmed several suspected and laboratory-confirmed cases among passengers and crew, with a small number of deaths reported. One patient has been treated in South Africa, while others remain under observation or isolation as investigations continue. These agencies are working to trace the source

of exposure and monitor anyone who may have been affected. In South Africa, hantavirus remains extremely uncommon. The National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) reports that local cases are rare and typically linked to travel or isolated exposure to rodents, rather than community spread. There is currently no evidence of local transmission.

Early symptoms of hantavirus infection can resemble flu, including fever, fatigue, muscle aches, and sometimes stomach discomfort. In more severe cases, it can progress quickly to breathing difficulties due to lung complications, making early medical attention important. Despite the recent outbreak headlines, WHO and local health officials continue to emphasise that hantavirus remains rare, and there is no cause for public panic.

Several successes as Atlantis police seize guns, ammunition and drugs

STAFF REPORTER

The Atlantis SAPS crime prevention unit had several successes during the first week of May. On Friday 1 May, members of the Atlantis SAPS crime prevention unit followed up on information received about a premises in Montreal Drive, Sherwood Park, where firearms were allegedly being stored.

They followed up on the information and four suspects (two males and two females), aged 17 to 58, were apprehended for possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition, and dealing in Tik and Mandrax tablets to the value of R130 000. One gmm firearm with five rounds of ammunition was also seized. On Saturday 2 May 2026, the officers were conducting stop-and-search operations in Starling Street, Robinvale. During the operation, officers noticed two males jumping over a fence when they saw the police

vehicle approaching. The members gave chase and apprehended the two suspects, who had a .38 special long-barrel revolver with six rounds of ammunition in their possession. Both suspects were arrested and were due to appear before court.

The next day, Sunday 3 May at 00:30, the same police officers were doing stop-and-search operations in the Witsand area when they searched a 45-year-old male who had an additional unlicensed .38 special firearm in his possession. Other officers attached to the crime prevention reaction unit were doing patrols in Royal George Street, Saxonsea on the evening of Friday 1 May when they noticed two youngsters who started running when they saw the police vehicle. While being chased by police, one of the suspects dropped the firearm and disappeared between the houses. The silver Amadeo Rossi special unlicensed firearm was seized and



all the firearms recovered were sent to the laboratory for ballistics tests. The acting Station Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Deon Jaftha, applauded the officers for their dedication. "It was the alertness and commitment of the community to give information that led to the seizing of unlicensed firearms," said Jaftha.



The dedicated investigative work of Detective Sergeant Jerome Pietersen has led to the successful conviction and sentencing of a murder accused to 15 years' direct imprisonment.

The case relates to the murder of Nigel Titus (25), who was shot in the back on 21 January 2015 at the corner of Charl Uys and Reygersdal Drive in Atlantis. In March 2026, accused Ashley Swartz (23) was sentenced to 15 years' direct imprisonment in the Atlantis Magistrate's Court following the conclusion of the case. Pietersen was recently recognised for his exceptional performance and the instrumental role he played in securing the conviction. Here he is congratulated on his achievement by Lieutenant Colonel Theresa Reeves.



HAVE YOUR SAY! COMMENT ON THE DRAFT ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT POLICY

The City invites residents, stakeholders and interested parties to comment on the draft Organisational Performance Management (OPM) Policy currently under review.

Originally adopted by Council in 2011, the OPM Policy is being updated to reflect:

- New organisational performance maturity assessments
- Updated legislative requirements
- A strategic shift towards an outcome-focused, technology-enabled and resident-centred performance management approach

What is the draft policy about?

The revised OPM Policy establishes a comprehensive framework for how the City's performance is planned, monitored, reviewed, evaluated, reported on and audited across all City directorates, departments, municipal entities and individual employees.

Its core purpose is to ensure that municipal planning, operations and performance monitoring meaningfully contribute to achieving the outcomes set out in the City's Integrated Development Plan (IDP).

The policy effectively ensures that the OPM system, a tool used to monitor service delivery progress in the City, is implemented well in order to achieve the set IDP objectives and in accordance with legislation.

Why is this update important?

The policy review is driven by three main factors:

- A shift toward outcomes- and impact-driven performance measurement
- To align with updated legislation, national regulations, municipal planning and budgeting frameworks, and IDP strategic priorities
- Integration with new technological advancements, including the City's OPM digital system for data management, dashboards, reporting and auditing

The draft policy is aligned with key legislation, including the Municipal Systems Act, Municipal Planning and Performance Management Regulations, the Municipal Finance Management Act, as well as the City's IDP.

Comment period

Submit your comments and objections from 11 May 2026 to 11 June 2026.

Comments, inputs and recommendations in respect of the draft Organisational Performance Management Policy can be submitted in any of the following ways:

- Email: performance.management@capetown.gov.za
- Internet: www.capetown.gov.za/haveyoursay
- Written submissions dropped off at Subcouncil offices

The City's Public Participation Unit will assist those who cannot read or write, live with disabilities or who are from disadvantaged groups and unable to submit written comments. For assistance with capturing your verbal comment, call 0800 212 176 or email Anthea.Bendie@capetown.gov.za.



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Firefighters honoured for dedication and bravery



MONIQUE HANSEN

This year, Atlantis was proud to host the celebration of International Firefighters Day, which is annually observed on 4 May. The annual event, hosted by the Fire and Rescue Service, gave visitors a look into the workings of the department, its staff and equipment.

The day also served as a remembrance of firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty and gave young people an idea of what to expect from this career path. The commemoration started with a cavalcade through the streets of Atlantis and was followed by exhibitions, live displays, sport and games. Grant Isaacs, the Fire Brigade Station Commander, said it was an honour for him to gather with his fellow firefighters, the community, and stakeholders who made the day a success. The day was filled with a full programme involving various role players, including the diving unit, helicopters, and others who helped the firefighters with physical activities. A mini- *Toughest*

Firefighter Alive (TFA) competition, which shows prestigious, high-intensity fitness for firefighters designed to test physical and mental endurance, was also held. Other stakeholders involved were law enforcement, metro police, and other departments of the City of Cape Town. Isaacs continued by thanking the community for their support and assistance when they do their work. "I want to encourage anyone to visit the Atlantis Fire Station if they want to know anything about this specific career path and the other services available at the station," he said.

PHOTOS: MONIQUE HANSEN, THORNE ADAMS, JODIE BOSCH & CITY OF CAPE TOWN



MARK ARMSTRONG. I became a firefighter because I believe that you are called to this career path. We serve and sacrifice our lives to serve the communities we live and work in, and that is what drives me.

DAVID ARMSTRONG: (Mark's son): It is not the easiest career, but it is one of the most impactful ways to serve the community you live and work in, and it brings positivity into my life.

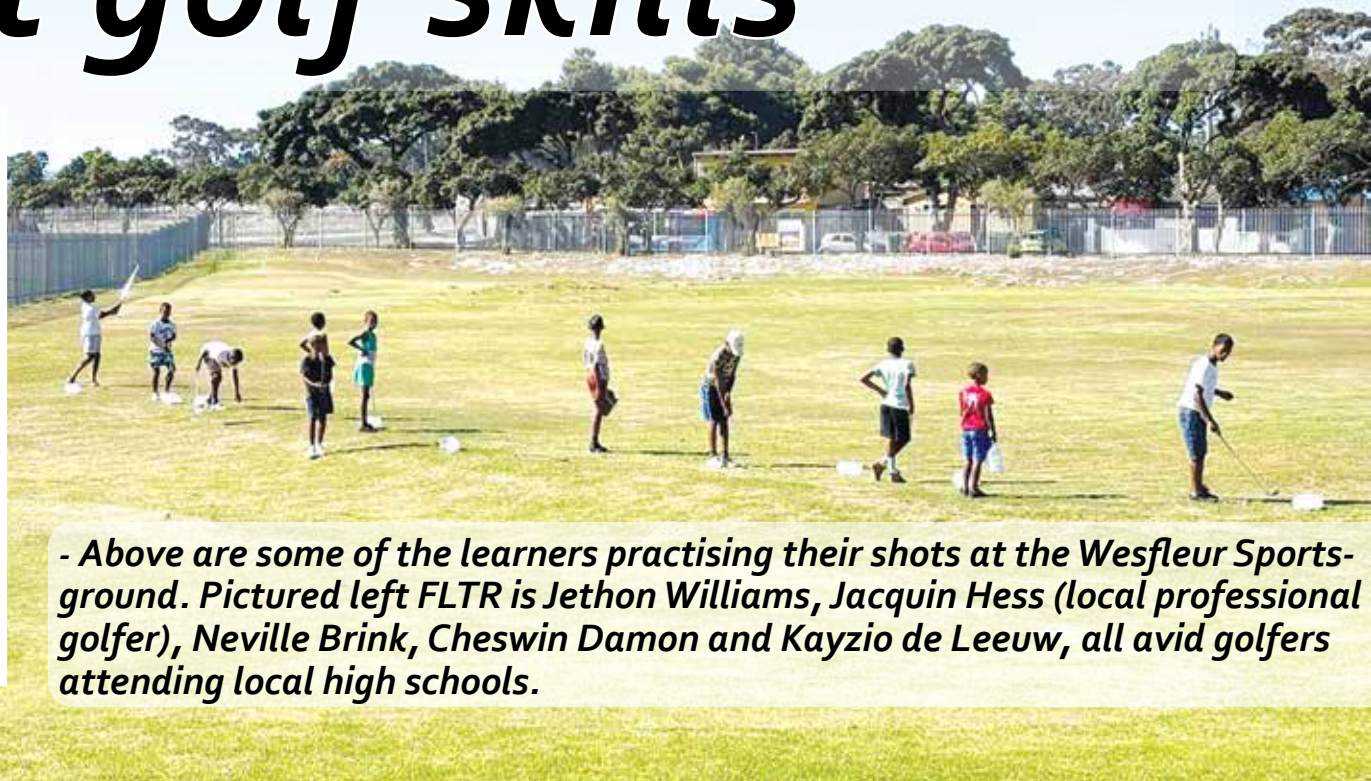


GRANT ISAACS: Growing up in the Northern Cape, as a boy, I witnessed my school burning down to the ground. Every day I go to work, I am reminded of that moment and how I could not do anything about it. That motivates me and fuels my passion to do my best in what I do.



JAMES BEZUIDENHOUT: For me, it is a calling, a way to serve my community and enjoy doing it.

Programme offers more than just golf skills



- Above are some of the learners practising their shots at the Wesfleur Sports-ground. Pictured left FLTR is Jethon Williams, Jacquin Hess (local professional golfer), Neville Brink, Cheswin Damon and Kayzio de Leeuw, all avid golfers attending local high schools.

BENJAMIN SMITH

In 2015, the South African Golf Development Board (SAGDB), in partnership with HeadCoach Shawn Conrad, launched a youth golf programme called SAGDB Atlantis.

The programme is making a meaningful impact in the community by teaching young people more than just golf. It aims to nurture a love for the sport while also building confidence, discipline, etiquette, focus, and other life skills that extend beyond the golf course. SAGDB Atlantis is open to children aged 8 to 18 years and is fully funded by Golf South Africa. All costs are covered, including coaching sessions, equipment, attire, catering, and travel to tournaments and other

golfing events. There are also no registration fees. Participants in the programme meet from Monday to Friday, between 3pm and 5pm, on the golf course at Wesfleur Sports Grounds. There are currently 40 participants in the programme from various schools in the area SAGDB Atlantis competes in the Western Province Golf League, which started on 13 April this year, where they will compete against some of the province's top schools. The programme also gives participants access to scholarship opportunities to play for some of the country's leading sports schools.

For Conrad, golf is more than just a sport; it is a tool to teach young people important life lessons that

help them become well-rounded individuals and prepare them for future success. "I want to show these kids that there is something better out there for them. We first teach them etiquette and discipline, and then we teach golf. Our mandate is not necessarily to make players professional golfers, but to help them become better adults. Golf is used to make players better people," he explained. Conrad encourages more young people in the community to join the programme and help grow the sport locally.

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