

Champions of the dance-floor



- Atlantis ballroom dancers Darren Poggenpoel (17) and McKenzie Gordon (13) recently returned home as champions after competing in Boksburg, Gauteng, where they won first place in the Rising Star Ballroom category and third place in the Latin Gold section.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 7

MORE RESOURCES AND SPACE NEEDED

Youth organisations call for greater investment in young people

STORY ON PAGE 3



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Bendegeweld dwaalkoeël: 15-jarige Atlantis tiener sterf koelbloedig

MONICA HERNE

Bendegeweld in Atlantis het verlede week vir die soveelste keer 'n onskuldige lewe geëis. Nikita Finch (15) van Sherwood Park, 'n leerder aan Robinvale Hoërskool, se lewe is skielik kortgeknip nadat sy Saterdag 7 Junie deur 'n dwaalkoeël getref is, 'n enkele dag na haar 15de verjaardag.

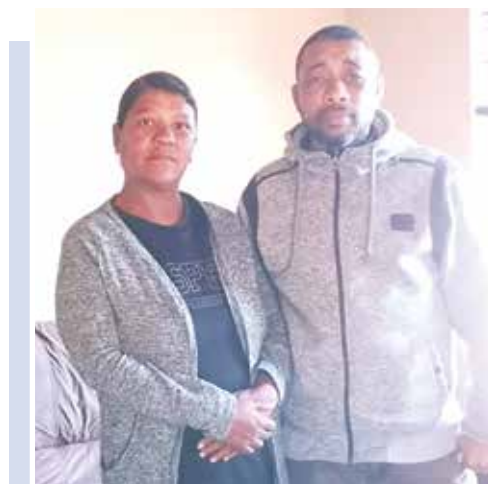
Die voorval het plaasgevind kort nadat sy en haar vriende van 'n trompoppie-kompisies by Grosvenor Primêre Skool teruggekeer het. Volgens haar tante was Nikita en haar vriendekring vrolik en opgewonde om haar verjaardag by die huis te vier. Die vorige dag het sy 15 jaar oud geword, en haar familie en vriende het beplan om saam 'n potjie te geniet. Terwyl die potjie reeds op die vuur was, het Nikita, haar oudste suster Kezia en 'n groep vriende besluit om na 'n huiswinkel in Alleghanystraat, Sherwood Park, te stap. Dit was hier waar onbekende mans skielik uit 'n swart motor gesprong en op twee vermeende bendeledede losgebrand het. Die twee mans het vir hul lewens gehardloop, maar so ook

Nikita en haar vriende. Die groep het na die naaste oop huis gevlug. Haar vriende en suster kon dit betyds tot binne in die huis maak, maar Nikita was minder gelukkig. Net voordat sy veiligheid kon bereik, is sy deur 'n dwaalkoeël agter in die kop getref.

Volgens Atlantis polisievoerder kaptein, Liza Munro, is 'n 48-jarige man ook tydens die voorval gewond. Nikita is na die Wesfleur-hospitaal geneem, waar sy dieselfde aand aan haar beserings beswyk het. Haar pa, Nazeem Bailey, sê hy sal nooit haar uitbundige lag vergeet nie. "Sy was baie toegewy aan haar kerk. Op die dag van die voorval was sy nog die oggend in die kerk."

Op haar verjaardag het sy en 'n vriendin saam in die klas gejuig op 'n Pinksterliedjie, en 'n onderwyseres het selfs vir haar 'n verjaarsdagliedjie gesing. Die onderwyseres het later 'n stembodskap aan die familie gespeel waarin Nikita haar bedank het omdat sy haar dag so spesiaal gemaak het. "Ons is soos zombies in die huis," vertel haar tante. "Die voorval het ons gesin sprakeloos gelaat. Daar is nou 'n groot leemte in ons huis." Nikita se droom was

om eendag 'n maatskaplike werker te word, omdat sy 'n groot liefde vir mense en veral vir kinders gehad het. Sy word oorleef deur haar ouers, vier broers en een suster.



- Nikita Finch (regs). Bo is haar verslae ouers, Nicolette en Nazeem Bailey



Police warns against 'vigilante justice' after Witsand murder

STAFF REPORTER

Atlantis police have arrested a suspect in connection with the murder of a 26-year-old man who allegedly fell victim to a mob justice attack in Witsand earlier this month.

According to Captain Elizabeth Munro, spokesperson for SAPS in Atlantis, the incident occurred on 8 May 2026 at approximately 15:05 near the Resource Centre in Witsand. The victim, identified as Andile Tshazana (26), was allegedly assaulted by members of the community. Police later found Tshazana at Wesfleur Hospital suffering from multiple open wounds and extensive bruising to his body and head. Before succumbing to his injuries, he reportedly identified one of the alleged attackers to a nurse. Following an investigation led by Detective Warrant Officer Chris van Wyk, a suspect was traced and arrested on 13 May 2026.

The accused subsequently appeared in the Atlantis Magistrate's Court on charges related to the incident. Police have confirmed that the investigation remains ongoing and that additional arrests are expected as detectives continue to

gather evidence. Atlantis Station Commander, Colonel Mario Thyse, condemned acts of vigilantism and warned community members against taking the law into their own hands. "Individuals engaging in these types of activities are not only putting themselves at risk, but they may also compromise ongoing police investigations, evidence gathering processes, and future court proceedings," said Thyse.

The police emphasised that vigilantism is a criminal offence and that those involved may face serious legal consequences. The punishment for vigilantism depends on the specific acts committed. For example, a person who assaults or kills someone they believe has committed a crime can themselves be charged and prosecuted for offences such as assault or murder. Police have urged residents to report criminal activity through the proper channels and allow law enforcement agencies and the courts to deal with offenders in accordance with the law.

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Youth appeal for support and resources

PETER LATEGAN

The future of Atlantis depends on the energy, creativity and determination of its young people. This is the view of Donito Botha, a youth councillor and founder of Youth X Cell, an organisation dedicated to uplifting and empowering young people.

Actively involved in youth and community development initiatives, he believes unemployment remains one of the biggest challenges facing young people in Atlantis. "Many young people complete school or obtain qualifications but struggle to access meaningful employment opportunities. This often leads to frustration, loss of hope and increased vulnerability to social issues such as substance abuse, crime and gang involvement," he said. Botha added that many young people are unaware of existing programmes or how to access them. He called for stronger partnerships between government, business, educational institutions and community organisations.

While various non-governmental organisations continue to provide opportunities for growth and development, Botha believes the biggest gaps remain employment opportunities, mentorship and access to information, transport and digital resources. He encouraged young people to become actively involved in local structures. "By volunteering, attending community meetings and contributing ideas and solutions, young people can help shape the future of Atlantis and ensure their voices are heard in decision-making processes," he said.

The Basic Package of Support (BPS) programme in Atlantis is also helping unemployed young people access learning and earning opportunities. Jo-Lynn Daniels, a Youth Life Coach Guide with the programme, said BPS works with government departments, public

entities and other stakeholders to connect young people to employment, training, education and entrepreneurship opportunities. One of the programme's greatest successes has been assisting young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET) to regain confidence, develop skills and pursue meaningful opportunities. Through personalised support, many participants have secured jobs, entered training programmes, continued their education or started their own businesses. She agreed that despite these successes, significant challenges remain. "High unemployment rates, limited access to skills development, lack of work experience, financial constraints, transport costs, limited internet access and exposure to crime and substance abuse continue to affect many young people," said Daniels.

Another organisation making a difference locally is Teenz Alive SA in Protea Park, Atlantis. The organisation provides a safe and supportive space where young people can complete homework after school while developing artistic talents and practical skills through performances, showcases and community activities. "We assist young people to build confidence, discover their talents and develop skills that prepare them for future opportunities," said Jodeci Koopman, a youth board member of the organisation.

Koopman agrees that many young people lack access to information about skills development and employment opportunities, as well as guidance on job application processes. She believes more mentorship, career guidance, financial literacy and life-skills programmes are needed to help young people succeed. She added that Teenz Alive SA urgently need suitable facilities to expand its youth development initiatives and reach more young people.



- Donito Botha (top left), Jo-Lynn Daniels (bottom left), and above is the board and members of Teenz Alive SA, based in Atlantis

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Learners show off entrepreneurial skills at ASOS market day

KRYSTINA PRETORIUS



The Atlantis School of Skills hosted its annual Market Day on Saturday 30 May, giving learners the opportunity to showcase their talents, practical skills and entrepreneurial abilities to the community.

The school offers nine workshops, including Hospitality, Office Management, Motor Body Repair, Arts and Crafts, Woodwork and Metalwork, Maintenance, Hair Care, Upholstery and Retail. A variety of stalls were on display, offering products and services at affordable prices. One of the highlights was the school's hair salon, where learners provided hair services for only R50 per person.

Principal Brice Carlse said the event allows the public to see the work being done at the school and the skills learners develop through practical training. "The purpose of the Market Day is to let the public know what we are doing at the school and what the learners are doing at the school," he said. Carlse explained that learners who attend the school are often referred there because they require alternative educational pathways. Entrepreneurship is important because learners can use the skills they acquire to make

and sell products, potentially building careers from those skills or starting their own businesses. One of the learners, Chleo Julius, who showcased her nail and lash skills at the event, said she hopes to pursue a career in beauty after leaving school. "I really enjoy doing people's nails and lashes, and that's why I decided to pursue it," she said. Another learner, Ethan Arendse, who works in the furniture and upholstery workshop, said he discovered a passion for the trade over time. "Just seeing the finished product is the best part of the job," he said.

Fernando Jacobs, one of the organisers of the event, said the day also provides learners with an opportunity to develop entrepreneurial skills. "The products they create during the workshops can be sold, allowing them to market themselves and learn how to communicate effectively with customers. "Entrepreneurship is extremely important for our youth. It gives them the opportunity to work for themselves and create their own employment opportunities, because there simply are not enough jobs available for everyone," he said. Departmental head, Chuneillah Erasmus, added that many former learners who have gone on to become successful entrepreneurs



regularly return to the school to encourage current learners. "They share their experiences and remind them that through hard work and perseverance there is hope for every one of them. We are extremely proud of our former learners who have demonstrated that our school has made a meaningful difference in their lives," she said.

AVBOB hit by cyber attack

Funeral insurance and services provider, AVBOB, has assured policyholders that essential services remain available. This comes after a cyber incident that disrupted some of the company's digital platforms and branch systems last week.

The company confirmed that the disruption was caused by external malicious actors. Investigations are ongoing to determine the full nature and extent of the incident, including whether any personal information may have been affected. AVBOB branches across the country remain open and operational. Clients can still make payments, register claims and arrange funerals through manual processes while systems are being restored. The company has also reassured customers that those who experience delays in paying premiums because of the disruption will not be penalised or prejudiced.

Residents are, however, being urged to remain vigilant against potential scams. Cyber incidents often create opportunities for fraudsters to target customers with fake payment requests or fraudulent links. AVBOB has advised clients to use only the official payment link provided by the company and to verify any communication requesting payments or personal information. Clients needing to submit new claims can do so via email while digital services remain affected.

AVBOB has promised to provide further updates as investigations and recovery efforts continue. By the time *Impact News* went to press, AVBOB's efforts to restore affected systems and services were continuing.

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Safety fears after Sibanye bus attacks

PETER LATEGAN

Concerns over commuter safety are mounting after a series of attacks on Sibanye Bus Services vehicles travelling between Atlantis and Cape Town. The company's buses have been targeted in five separate incidents since late May.

According to the company's spokesperson, Bronwen Dyke-Beyer, the attacks occurred on 22 May, 28 May, and again on 2, 3 and 4 June, primarily during peak commuter periods. She said the buses affected were those originating from the Atlantis and Mamre areas and that the incidents occurred in the vicinity of the Du Noon taxi rank. "We believe that those behind the attacks do not want passengers to make use of our services. The attacks are happening at the taxi rank only," she said. Criminal cases have been opened and investigations are ongoing. Sibanye has also formally requested urgent intervention from the South African Police Service (SAPS), Metro Police, Traffic Services and the City of Cape Town's Safety and Security Directorate.

"Passengers were on board during most of the attacks. More than 30 bus windows have been damaged during the five incidents, with



four commuters sustaining facial and head injuries as a result of the incidents. Occupied buses being targeted creates an unacceptable safety risk for our passengers, drivers and other road users," she said.

"The recurring pattern of attacks concentrated within a particular operational area suggests these are not isolated incidents and warrants urgent intervention by law enforcement," said Dyke-Beyer. Despite the financial losses, the company's primary concern remains the safety and wellbeing of its passengers and employees. "These brazen attacks on people who are just trying to travel to work and school are intolerable and cannot be allowed to become the norm. Using violence to coerce commuters into using specific modes of public transport should not simply be accepted," she added.



2 X VACANCIES (ATLANTIS, WESTERN CAPE)

The Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ) has the following vacancies available:

PROJECT OFFICER: INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT TWO-YEAR CONTRACT

Purpose of the Position:

The Project Officer: Infrastructure Development will provide project management, coordination, monitoring, reporting, and administrative support across the ASEZ infrastructure and zone operations project portfolio. The Project Officer will assist in tracking project progress, maintaining project documentation, coordinating meetings, following up on action items, supporting site visits, monitoring project risks and issues, assisting with procurement and payment processes, and ensuring project information is accurate, up to date, and properly recorded. The role will support both capital infrastructure projects and zone operations projects, including civil works, maintenance, facilities management, utilities, tenant-related works,

Skills and Competency Requirements:

- Ability to work under pressure and manage multiple priorities
- Strong project coordination and organisational skills
- High attention to detail, coordination, and administrative skills
- Strong database management and record-keeping skills
- Strong communication and stakeholder engagement skills
- Computer literacy in Microsoft Office, email, and relevant systems
- Strong organisational and problem-solving skills
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and exercise professionalism
- A proactive attitude with the ability to work independently and within a team
- Multi-tasking skills and a "can-do" attitude
- Report writing and presentation skills

Qualifications & Experience Requirements:

- Relevant Construction Management or equivalent 3-year qualification in the built-environment (NQF6)
- Minimum 3 years of previous experience in project coordination, project administration, monitoring and reporting in the built-environment.
- Project Management certificate would be advantageous
- Experience in infrastructure procurement and financial administration processes will be advantageous
- Experience in a PFMA environment would be advantageous

Duties:

- Support the planning, implementation and coordination of infrastructure and zone operations projects.
- Monitor project schedules, deliverables and milestones and track progress against approved plans.
- Monitor project risks, issues and action items and escalate where required.
- Assist with the coordination of project meetings and ensure action items are followed up and completed.
- Maintain project documentation, records and filing systems.
- Compile meeting agendas and minutes and distribute relevant information to stakeholders.
- Ensure project data and information are accurate and regularly updated.
- Participate in site visits and inspections as required.
- Support coordination with contractors, consultants, service providers and internal stakeholders.
- Assist in monitoring contractor performance and compliance with project requirements.
- Assist with procurement processes in line with the ASEZ policies and procedures.
- Support adherence to health and safety standards and regulatory requirements.
- Maintain audit-ready project records and documentation.

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT OFFICER TWO-YEAR CONTRACT

Purpose of the Position:

The Supply Chain Management (SCM) Officer will provide administrative and operational support to the SCM Unit to ensure the efficient, effective, and compliant execution of procurement processes within the Atlantis Special Economic Zone Company (ASEZCo). The incumbent will support the SCM Specialist in implementing and maintaining an effective and comprehensive supply chain management function in line with the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), applicable SCM legislation, and ASEZCo policies and procedures.

Skills and Competency Requirements:

- Ability to work under pressure and manage multiple priorities
- Sound knowledge of the PFMA and related SCM legislative requirements
- High attention to detail, coordination, and administrative skills
- Strong database management and record-keeping skills
- Strong communication and stakeholder engagement skills
- Computer literacy in Microsoft Office, email, and relevant systems
- Strong organisational and problem-solving skills
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and exercise professionalism
- A proactive attitude with the ability to work independently and within a team
- Multi-tasking skills and a "can-do" attitude

Qualifications & Experience Requirements:

- Relevant Supply Chain Management or equivalent 3-year qualification in the built environment (NQF 6)
- Minimum 5 years previous experience in SCM, ideally in a minimum of 2 diverse environments
- Minimum 3 years' experience in a PFMA environment
- Experience in infrastructure procurement and understanding of CIDB compliance requirements will be advantageous

Duties:

- Administer the Acquisition Management function and address associated procurement requirements, and ensure compliance with all applicable legislation
- Facilitate and coordinate all stages of the competitive bidding process, in line with PFMA and related SCM legislative requirements
- Provide administrative and operational SCM support to all business units
- Support the SCM Specialist in providing technical SCM advice and guidance to business units
- Perform any other SCM-related duties as may be reasonably required by the organisation
- Contribute to improved turnaround times and service delivery within the SCM Unit
- Support compliance, governance, and audit readiness initiatives within the SCM environment
- Implement data management and reporting requirements linked to SCM activities
- Assist in implementing cost control measures across SCM functions

An all-inclusive, market related cost to company remuneration package will be offered for the position. The contract will terminate automatically at the end of the contract period, with no option for renewal. A three-month probation period will apply.

Should you comply with all the before mentioned then you should not hesitate to apply. Forward your application accompanied by a cover letter and detailed CV to Siyasanga Tetyana, Human Resources Specialist of the ASEZ: to hr@atlantissez.co.za

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Suksesvolle oogsorgdag bring weer hoop vir honderde

Die Rebecca van Amsterdam-saal in Protea Park, Atlantis, was weer op Donderdag 21 Mei in rep en roer. Nog 'n suksesvolle gemeenskapsinisiatief is van stapel gestuur toe meer as 250 inwoners gratis gesif is vir verskeie oog- en ander gesondheidstoestande.

Die projek het spesifiek gefokus op SASSA-pensioenarisse en het ten doel gehad om vroeë opsporing van oogsiektes en ander gesondheidsprobleme te bevorder. Deelnemers is gesif vir katarakte, gloukoom en diabetesverwante oogprobleme. "Die inisiatief het 'n belangrike rol gespeel in die verbetering van toegang tot basiese oogsorgdienste vir 'n kwesbare deel van die gemeenskap," het die organiseerders gesê.

Verpleegkundiges van Wesfleur Hospitaal het ook hul deel gedoen deur bloeddruk- en diabetestoetse uit te voer. Hierdie dienste het gehelp om moontlike gesondheidsrisiko's vroegtydig te identifiseer en deelnemers aan te moedig om verdere mediese sorg te ontvang

waar nodig. 'n Groot hoogtepunt van die dag was die uitdeel van gereedgemaakte leesbrille aan persone wie daarvoor gekwalifiseer het. "Vir baie senior burgers het hierdie eenvoudige hulpmiddels 'n onmiddellike verbetering in hul vermoë om te lees en daaglikse take uit te voer, beteken. Tydens die siftingsproses is verskeie persone geïdentifiseer met verhoogde oogdrukke, wat 'n moontlike aanduiding van gloukoom kan wees. 'n Aantal persone met katarakte is ook opgespoor. Hierdie individue is na plaaslike oogkundiges verwys vir verdere ondersoek en behandeling. Vroeë opsporing van hierdie toestande is van kardinale belang om onnodige sigverlies te voorkom en die lewenskwaliteit van pasiënte te verbeter," het Frederick Jansen van Jansen Vorster Optometriste gesê.

Die organisering en uitvoering van die dag sou nie moontlik gewees het sonder die ondersteuning van verskeie vennote nie. Spesiale dank word uitgespreek aan die Rotariërklubs van Melkbos, Atlantis en Blaauwberg vir hul finansiële



en logistieke ondersteuning. Hul betrokkenheid het 'n betekenisvolle verskil gemaak tot die sukses van die projek. Waardering word ook uitgespreek teenoor Innervision en Jansen Vorster Optometriste vir hul professionele kliniese bystand gedurende die dag. Hul kundigheid en toewyding het verseker dat inwoners gehalte-oogsorg ontvang het. Die organiseerders het hul dank uitgespreek aan Essilor vir hul ondersteuning en bydrae tot die sukses van die geleentheid. Essilor is 'n internasionale maatskappy wat daarop fokus om ooggesondheid regoor die wêreld te verbeter.

"Die dag het weereens bewys hoe waardevol samewerking tussen gesondheidswerkers, gemeenskapsorganisasies en diensklubs kan wees. Deur saam



te werk, kan ons help om sigverlies te voorkom en die gesondheid en welstand van ons senior burgers te bevorder," het Jansen bygevoeg.

Concert collects dozens of items to assist those in need



The Tabernacle of Love Community Church's Winter Drive Concert proved to be a resounding success, with residents from across Atlantis and surrounding areas coming together to support those in need during the cold winter months.

The event, held on 31 May at the Protea Park Primary School Hall combined music, fellowship and community spirit while collecting much-needed winter essentials for vulnerable individuals and families. Community members gained entry by donating gently used clothing, blankets and other warm items, including coats, jerseys, beanies, scarves and pants. The generous response from attendees resulted in a substantial collection of donations. The concert featured performances by New Generation Kingdom Church, Siloam Church, Belinda Eland, Duwayne Damons and several other artists, creating an uplifting atmosphere throughout



the evening. The collected items will now be distributed to various organisations and communities in Atlantis, Mamre and Pella where there is a need, ensuring that the donations reach those most affected by the winter season.

Dr Lorenzo Maya, one of the organisers and church leaders involved in the initiative, expressed his appreciation to everyone who supported the event. "We are truly grateful for the overwhelming support received from the community," he said. Maya added that the success of the concert once again demonstrated the power of communities working together for a common purpose. "When churches, organisations, artists and residents unite around a worthy cause, we can make a real difference in the lives of those who need it most. We thank every donor, volunteer, performer and supporter who helped make this initiative a success."





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Talented young dancers secure first place at glitzy event

MONICA HERNE

The talented duo competed in Boksburg, Gauteng, where they secured first place in the Rising Star Ballroom category and third place in the Latin Gold section. The competition formed part of a Super Series event, where they also earned their South African colours.

Representing Atlantis on a national stage is something in which both dancers take great pride. Their success reflects months of discipline, dedication, and hard work. The pair has been dancing together for just over a year, but their partnership began when

Darren's previous partner left the sport. "Becoming Darren's partner was intimidating at first," McKenzie admits. "I had to work hard to reach his level, but I knew it was possible." Darren, a matric learner at Saxonsea Secondary School, has been dancing for nine years, while McKenzie, a Grade 7 learner at Wesfleur Primary, began in 2023 after being inspired by the TV show *Strictly Come Dancing*.

The two train under the South African Dance Foundation (SADF) and credit their growth to Marion Dexter Dance Studio. Both families have expressed immense pride in the duo's achievements, highlighting not only their results, but their

strong teamwork and commitment. Despite her short time in the sport, McKenzie has already earned 19 trophies and 18 medals, while Darren boasts an impressive 105 trophies and 35 medals. With their sights now set on Johannesburg this coming December, the duo is seeking financial support to make the trip possible. To assist, please contact Dane Gordon on 072 073 0146.



Unique event planned to celebrate local talent

Residents of Atlantis and surrounding communities will have an opportunity to experience a unique celebration of local culture, history and artistic talent when Shane's Media House hosts the Atlantis Art Gallery on 27 June 2026.

Coinciding with the 50th celebration of Atlantis this year, the event will bring together artists, photographers and creatives from Atlantis, Mamre, Pella and Witsand in an immersive gallery experience designed to showcase the area's rich heritage and diverse stories through visual art and photography. According to Shane Hoop, owner of Shane's Media House, the exhibition aims to provide a platform for local talent while creating a space where community members can connect with the history, identity and future of Atlantis through creative expression.

Visitors can look forward to a live music performances, refreshments and a symbolic time capsule initiative that will capture the spirit of the community for future generations. Admission is priced at R150 per person, which includes two complimentary drinks, full access to the exhibition, a picture booth experience, an exclusive Atlantis postcard and access to an online gallery where photographs from the event can be viewed after the exhibition. The event will also feature work from several other local photographers and creatives, including Daniels Digital, Davids Legacy Photography, Wayne Daniels Photography and Jabbzi Photography, and will be held at the Atlantis Multi-purpose Hall. The initiative is supported by a number



of local organisations and businesses committed to community development and creative growth. Partners include Impact News, SEDFA, Atlantis Creative Hub, Glam Hub, Creation by Lutho, Evolve Events, Joy Funsionz, Bad Bone Productions and other community-focused brands.

Organisers believe the initiative will contribute to the growth of the local creative sector while providing artists with valuable exposure and networking opportunities. "Through projects such as the Atlantis Art Gallery, we want to invest in platforms that promote local voices, preserve community stories and encourage artistic development within Atlantis and its neighbouring communities," Hoop said.

Support available for all spaza-shop owners

Spaza shop owners in and around Atlantis are being encouraged to take advantage of the government's R500 million Spaza Shop Support Fund.

On the 29th of May, government officials announced that R179.6 million has already been approved to support more than 2,300 South African-owned spaza shops across the country. The fund, which is administered by the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) and the National Empowerment Fund (NEF), aims to strengthen township and rural businesses through financial and non-financial support. Approved businesses may receive assistance for stock purchases, point-of-sale devices, infrastructure improvements, inventory support and business

development training. Many applications have been delayed due to a lack of valid municipal trading permits and other compliance requirements. Business owners are therefore encouraged to ensure that their permits, licences and business information are up to date before applying.

A nationwide awareness campaign will be launched during June to help qualifying entrepreneurs access the fund and receive compliance support where needed. For more information, business owners can visit the websites of the Department of Small Business Development or the National Empowerment Fund. Local entrepreneurs should monitor announcements and take advantage of this opportunity to grow and formalise their businesses.

Indigent recipients urged to renew applications before end of June

Due to the new General Valuation that comes into effect on 1 July 2026, the City of Cape Town encourages pensioners and social grant recipients who are currently receiving pensioner support from the City, as well as registered indigent beneficiaries, to re-apply for relief before 1 July 2026.

Pensioners may also contact rates.rebate@capetown.gov.za for individual assistance from one of the City's team members or visit their nearest Customer Interaction Centre. Registered beneficiaries can expect another SMS message from the City from next week onwards

outlining the steps to reapply via a new WhatsApp chatbot. If in doubt, call the City's Call Centre on 0860 103 089 to verify the SMS message. A few years ago, the City decided to align its re-application period with the General Valuation, meaning beneficiaries would only need to renew their benefit status once every three years instead of annually. This three-year application period ends at the end of June 2026.

Eagles impress despite narrow defeat to UWC



BENJAMIN SMITH

On Saturday 30 May, several dozen spectators came to support the Atlantis Eagles Volleyball Club as they faced off against the University of the Western Cape (UWC) in the Cape Town Volleyball Federation Division 1 league.

The match was played at the Rebecca van Amsterdam sports hall in Atlantis. This was the fourth league match of the season and both teams came into the match with a three-game winning streak. The university

team secured a hard-fought 2-1 victory over the home side after three intense sets, with both teams exchanging momentum throughout the match. Eagles dominated the first set 25-10, thanks to strong serving from middle blocker Monrow Fortuin. However, UWC responded quickly and won the second set 25-22.

The deciding set was played to 15 points and, although Eagles put up a strong defensive display, it was no match for UWC's powerful spikes and

quick court movements. The final set ended 15-12 in favour of UWC. UWC team captain Mvelwenhle Ndaleneni played a key role in the team's winning performance, leading his team to victory. "This was the toughest match we have had this season. Although we lost the first set by 15 points, we were still able to beat them and hopefully we can take this momentum with us going forward and win the league," said Ndaleneni after the match. Despite the loss, Eagles coach Nathan Pretorius still praised his team's performance

and remains optimistic about the team's future. "I think we did very well under the circumstances. We are still building a team. The players did very well and I am so ecstatic about what's still to come. From here on, we are going to start building and working on the fundamental things that we still need to get right, and I'm excited about this team going forward," said Pretorius.



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