

NicReg at Tshirolwe burns down

By Maanda Bele

A fire destroyed NicReg, a popular pub, grill and accommodation venue at Tshirolwe in Nzhelele last Tuesday (2nd). The damage to the buildings and the furniture is estimated at more than R2,6 million.

In an interview with Limpopo Mirror, NicReg's co-owner, Mr Reggie Mathivha, said that he was not sure what had caused the fire as he had not been around when the incident happened. The fire apparently broke out in the early morning hours. People who were sleeping in the back rooms were awakened by guards warning them that the pub was on fire. The police and firefighters were immediately alerted about the incident.

"The whole thing is still under investigation," he said. "It is a big setback and hopefully in time things will be fixed."

In a Facebook post after the incident, Reggie wrote: "The entrepreneurship dream is reduced to ashes for now."

So far it had been a wonderful and promising journey, filled with successes and failures, each with plenty of insightful lessons. Thanks to all those who have been



Firefighters try to put the fire out that destroyed NicReg.

genuinely supportive throughout. I will forever cherish the wonderful friendships and memories shared with all those who enjoyed the establishment."

A regular customer at the pub, Tshilidzi Mukwevho, said: "NicReg was like a second home, a place of safety and fun for all age groups. It kept us entertained at all times."

She stated that the inferno that had occurred at the NicReg had left scars in the hearts of those who spent restful time there. "We believe that the NicReg shall rise again and we sympathise with the family at this tragic moment," she added.

The provincial police's spokesperson, Lt-Col Moatshe Ngoepe, confirmed the incident. "The pub was totally burnt to ashes with all the furniture and stock inside," he said. "The police's investigation is still continuing."

Farewell to selfless mother

In memoriam

"After the death of my father many years ago, my mother worked in the fields to provide for the family. With the little money she earned, she managed to take me through school and today I am a teacher, an award-winning musician and community builder because of her selfless efforts."

These were the words of the current title holder of a Tshivenda Music Award in the reggae category, Shufflers Ragimana, during the moving funeral service of his late mother, Ms Phophi Ragimana that was recently held at Makonde.

Hundreds of mourners forgot the cruelty of death for a while as Shufflers performed some of his best songs during his mother's funeral service. "My mother loved my music, and this is the best way to say goodbye to her. She was the best mother ever who would go to bed hungry, while she

made sure that we were all fed. Though she never went to school, she had a passion for education and she worked hard to put me through school."

A staunch member of the Zion Christian Church (ZCC), Ms Ragimana died at the age of 97 after falling ill. Shufflers said he believed that God had given his mother a long life, because she was a good person. "We were waiting for the three remaining years, so that we could throw a big 100th birthday for her. Unfortunately, God decided to call her. The family has accepted what happened because all of us will one day face death. We really thank God for giving us a wonderful gift in our mother."

Pastor Mmberegeni Mbedzi, who officiated the funeral service, thanked God for blessing Phophi with a long life. "If you do good, God will bless you with long life like our mother here. The church has lost a soldier who sacrificed everything to praise the

Lord. We have no doubt that wherever she is, the angels are celebrating that she has gone back to where she belongs – the arms of the Lord."

ZCC female choir members sang and danced while the casket was lowered to her final resting place in the Makonde graveyard.



The late Ms Phophi Ragimana, mother of reggae musician Shufflers Ragimana.



Family members photographed at the gravesite of Ms Phophi Ragimana shortly after the funeral service at Makonde graveyard.



The top pupils at the Khavhatondiwe Academy at Madombidzha who passed their exams with flying colours in their subjects were awarded trophies and certificates during the awards ceremony held at the school at the end of last year. From left are Precious Ramudzwi (top Grade 4 pupil), Nnhlahla Rambwa (top Grade 3 pupil), Masindi Ravhura (top Grade 2 pupil), Kopano Machaba (top Grade 3 pupil), Ronewa Ramoboya (Top Grade 1 pupil) and Roshuma Madali (top Grade 4 pupil).

Good start for child-headed families

By Elmon Tshikhudo

Sixty child-headed and disadvantaged families at Itsani started the new year on a high note, when a well-known Shayandima-based business presented them with food parcels.

The parcels came about as an initiative by Thulamela Ward 37 councillor Mr Takalani Mawelewe and other stakeholders, who went out seeking donations for them.

Out of the many requests they made, Naledzi Lodge at Shayandima responded positively and catered for all the families.

Cllr Mawelewe said that they had a big challenge in the ward, as most families were headed by children and were poor with no one working in the family.

"As the leadership, we cannot pretend that nothing is happening when children are starving. We know we cannot go out begging

on their behalf and that is why we started a self-sustainable project to help them. The little they got today will brighten their faces and they will enjoy themselves with others," she said.

Ms Margareth Makhado, manager at Naledzi Lodge, said that when they were approached they did not think twice as it was a worthy cause. "Children have a special place in this company. We strongly believe that the future of this country lies with the youth," she said.



Some of the beneficiaries with the groceries they received from Naledzi Lodge at Shayandima. Standing from right is Cllr Takalani Mawelewe and the members of the ward committee.

NOTICE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) PROCESS IN SUPPORT OF A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION BY SAMIN GROUP PTY LTD IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MUSINA IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE & AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

DMR REF: LP30/5/1/1/2/13050 EM

Notice is hereby given that an application for Environmental Authorisation has been submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR): Limpopo Region in terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014 under Section 24 (5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107/1998) (NEMA) in support of a Prospecting Right Application.

SAMIN GROUP Pty Ltd is seeking environmental authorisation to prospect for various minerals of Brytes, Chrome ore, Coal, Cobalt, Copper ore, Diamond, Gold ore, Graphite, Iron Ore and Nickel Ore.

PROJECT: Prospecting activities with bulk sampling will be undertaken on unsurveyed state owned land 440MT and 442MT at Gumbu, close to Masisi, approximately 100km east of Musina town. It will involve digging of trenches and drilling of surface boreholes to be spread out over the entire project area in search of viable mineral deposits.

Naledzi Environmental Consultants CC has been appointed as independent environmental consultants, to conduct the necessary EIA and Management Plans as outlined in the current EIA Regulations of NEMA.

OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER AS I&AP & COMMENT ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT (DSR):

You are invited to register an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and comment on the available Draft Scoping Report (DSR). A Background Information Document (BID) that provides an overview of the application as well as the DSR is available on the Naledzi website as follows: www.naledzi.co.za/projects. I&APs wanting to obtain further project information, register on the project database and/or provide comments on the DSR must provide such together with their name, contact details and interests in the project to the contact person indicated below on or before **12 February 2018**.

The DSR is also available at the following public venues for public review from **Friday 12 January 2018 to Monday, 12 February 2018**:

- The Tribal Offices of Malale, Sigonde, Gumbu, Tshenzhelani and Masisi
- It is also available for download on the Naledzi website: www.naledzi.co.za/projects

I&APs can comment on the DSR by completing the comment sheet (available on Naledzi website and at public venues), writing a letter, sending an email or contacting Naledzi as per the below details:

Marissa Botha / Desmond Musetsho
 Cell: 084 226 5584 (Marissa) or 083 410 1477 (Desmond)
 Tel: 015 296 3988 Fax: 015 296 4021
 or Email: botham@naledzi.co.za / dmusetsho@naledzi.co.za

INVITATION TO A PUBLIC MEETING:

You are also invited to attend a **Public Meeting on Wednesday, 7 February 2018 from 2pm – 4pm** at the Gumbu Primary School located at **Gumbu village**.

The meeting purpose will be to clarify issues and concerns raised with respect to the DSR and to provide information on the project and EIA Process.

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