

Orange Farm NEWS

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MID MAY 2023 ☎ 011 850-1160 ✉ orangefarmnews@yahoo.com - LEVEL 1 BEE CONTRIBUTOR

BRINGING HOPE TO ORANGE FARM



COMMITTED TO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: EmpowaWorx CEO, Simphiwe Masiza

Simphiwe Masiza, the driving force behind Empowa Youth Week in Orange Farm grew up poor and learned the value of hard work and entrepreneurship from a very young age – in fact, his first business efforts were to help my single mom with the household expenses.

Always having been a salesperson, he used to sell Tupperware back in Soweto – that might be a strange thing for a young boy to do, but it was an opportunity that presented itself and of course he grabbed it.

"What I have learned from that experience is that I am capable, and that if you look for opportunities, they will arise. And that I was blessed with the ability to pursue my dream and hustle, and ultimately become the architect of my own destiny. Another thing I learned from township life was that if you want something to be, you have to do it yourself," says Masiza.

He goes on to say that if he hadn't had help and mentorship from the men that he encountered while growing up, he doesn't know where he would be today. As it was when he was younger, today's youth desire to be viable and productive citizens that contribute to their communities and the country's economy, but if we don't give them the opportunity to do that, who will?

"Our youth need real and relevant opportunities, not empty promises and as a township kid, I know that very well," he says.

Masiza feels that the youth need to feel that they are being listened to – they don't want empty promises, but rather real and relevant opportunities. By going to them, where they are, and giving them the information they need to make good decisions about their future and enabling them to find opportunities that match their passions and skills is the only way society can ensure that they don't feel lost and abandoned...

Continues on Page 02. See advert on Page 07

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Orange Farm NEWS

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From Page 01

...This is why when he activates the EmpowaYouth events, they make sure they are done to gold standards – they bring it all to where the youth are at and tell them, through our actions, that they are being listened to and that they are worth it. For EmpowaYouth, the target market is two-fold – peri-urban and semi-rural township youth between the ages of 18-35 that desire to change their socio-economic circumstances; and the public and private entities that can offer the opportunities, whether they are jobs, skills development or entrepreneurial funding. EmpowaYouth is a platform – it's not an event. Yes, they activate events but there's so much more that happens after the event and by bringing different private and public enterprises on board, EmpowaYouth can ensure that they leave a legacy behind in each area they activate. EmpowaYouth brings information and real and relevant opportunities to youth where they are – the platform partners with relevant private and public enterprises to ensure that the job, learning and funding opportunities are indeed relevant to the youth. They bring expert speakers to outline the different career streams and entrepreneurial gaps in various industry sectors so that the youth can understand where they can fit in and what resonates with their personal dreams and skillsets. There are a number of young people in



Thousands of Orange Farm youths attended the EmpowaYouth Week 2022 held at Chris Hani Sports Complex. Register today for this year's edition!

Orange Farm that have greatly benefitted from EmpowaYouth.

Alongside the EmpowaYouth Week, The Masiza Sports Tournament enables budding football and netball stars to compete and hone their skills and offers them the possibility of being spotted by a talent scout, as well as winning prizes.

"Our next big event is our EmpowaYouth Week in Orange Farm on 22-26 May 2023 where we will be hosting 10 stages for the five days, with over 200 speakers coming to Orange Farm to give the youth invaluable information and guidance, as well as opportunities. The Masiza Sports Tournament kicks off 6 weeks before and the

finals will take place on the weekend of the 27th May 2023. We still have opportunities for businesses and organisations to partner with us by anchoring a stage, exhibiting and bringing opportunities for the youth. For more information, you can visit the website: www.empowayouth.co.za", says Masiza. All young people wanting to attend this incredible event need to register on the website to secure their place. This is happening at the end of May, at the Chris Hani Sports Complex and promises to be yet another amazing example of how, if we work together, we can make a positive difference in the lives and futures of our youth.

See advert on Page 07.

Soultainment to release new music



Orange Farm band, Soultainment members, Lucky Ngakane (vocalist); Malusi Bovama (vocalist); Vuyo Mankayi (keyboardist); Sifiso Gift (guitarist); Mlungisi Jange (drummer) and Phazimane Simelane a bass player are set to release a new album.

See our website for full story: orangefarmnews.co.za

Local series offers insight into kasi life



Behind the Scenes: Forty two local actors collaborate on set in the filming of 'Welcome to Orange Farm' series

A local production company, Dramatic Wise, is currently on set shooting the 'Welcome to Orange Farm' series in several locations across the township.

This debut series was written by Ntombikayise Xaba, Tshepo Mokogosi and Lebohlang Lehana - the latter is also director - is set to run for 5 seasons with the producers aiming to inspire individuals to make wise decisions and lead better lives. It will showcase the unique culture and lifestyle of the township, displaying the good and the bad and what happens in between. A number of social issues like drug addiction, crime and lack of parenting amongst others are tackled. Lehana told *Orange Farm News*. "South Africa is a diverse country and it's essential for us to learn and understand each other's backgrounds. 'Welcome to Orange Farm' shows the world who we are and where we come from." Lehana thanked the community for the warm reception, Hungry Lion and Metsing Carwash and Grill for providing meals to the crew. "Our main challenges are transport and lunch for the crew, we plead with businesses, organisations and well-wishers to please support us," Lehana added.

To support the crew, contact Lebohlang Lehana on 084 702 0708.



CATCH THEM YOUNG: Lusemanzi ECD learners are taught to love reading both at school and at home

Lusemanzi encourages reading culture in homes

Lusemanzi ECD Centre in Drieziek 3 believes that reading should not only be promoted on World Book Day - an annual event each April - but a habit to be nurtured daily.

The ECD founder, Lorato Duma, told *OFN* that her centre promotes book reading all the time and encourages parents to buy books and read to their children on daily basis.

She said: "Our society is too focused on cellphones and TV more than family time. That needs to change, if we want to create a literate generation, we must start now. It is time to recognise the value of books and authors in our society."

"On our World Book Day celebration, we asked parents to create books with pictures from magazines and paste them. Children then told stories looking at the pictures. It was a great experience and we encourage parents to continue with these exercises at home," Duma added.

According to the 2030 Reading Panel, basic education among children in South Africa has declined. Most children leave Grade 1 without knowing the alphabet, while 82% of Grade 4 learners cannot read for meaning.

Pick n Pay Eyethu Mall staffers support Slipper Day



Workers at Pick n Pay Eyethu Mall wore slippers to help raise R10-million for children with life threatening illnesses

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Between 10h00 – 13h00**

Slipper Day is Reach For A Dream's largest and most celebrated fundraiser that takes place annually on 5 May.

It began as a local initiative in Kwa-Zulu Natal in 2011 and has since grown into a nationwide movement. From office workers in corporate attire donning bunny-eared slippers, to school children sporting fuzzy monsters – wearing your slippers and stickers is just one small step that will have a huge impact. It's your chance to get creative, have fun and help make a difference! In 2022, Reach For A Dream, raised over R8.3-million and this year, they aimed to raise R10 million so that they can help 2 000 children with life-threatening illnesses, experience moments of joy that come with having dreams fulfilled. To support this fundraiser, one must get a R20 Slipper Day sticker at Reach For A Dream's partner retail stores such as Wimpy, Pick n Pay, Dis-Chem Pharmacies, ToyZone, or Dis-Chem and wear it, together with their cozy footwear on the day in support for children with life-threatening illnesses who spend most of their time in slippers.

"All proceeds raised from the day go to Reach For A Dream, to help us combat the gravity of serious disease by assisting us in making children's dreams come true. Whether it's taking a plunge and swimming alongside dolphins, meeting an idol they admire, or getting that new doll house they've always dreamed of – these magical moments grant these youngsters and their families an invaluable respite from daily stressors associated with ill health. But more than anything else, what truly makes this experience special is how fulfilled dreams stir up much-needed courage and hope, helping these little ones believe that tomorrow is worth fighting for," says Reach For A Dream.

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Intouch's Ronald Kapaso (checkered shirt) with Mrs South Africa semifinalist - Nwabisa Mbambo (red and white sash); Miss Confidence, - Relebohile Foka (black dress); 1st Princess - Mbali Shabalala (cream dress); Mr Confidence - Katleho Ludidi (navy blue suit); 1st Prince - Nkosinathi Moloka (black jacket) and other stakeholders at the United Reformed Church in Ext 1

Foka and Ludidi crowned Mr & Miss Confidence

Intouch Youth Development hosted the successful Mr & Miss Confidence 2023 pageant at its offices in Ext 1 on 27 April. Relebohile Foka was crowned Miss Confidence while Mbali Shabalala walked away as the 1st Princess. Katleho Ludidi is Mr Confidence with his 1st Prince being Nkosinathi Moloka. The pageant sought a well rounded personality with beauty, poise, confidence, intelligence someone who can communicate. Mrs South Africa 2023 Semi Finalist, Nwabisa Mbambo adjudicated at

the pageant, she has always played the most pivotal role in steering beauty Queens/Kings to success. "I am grateful for having entrusted me with this responsibility. To every parent who supports their kids we are honored," said Mbambo. Intouch thanks CleanTouch, AC Foundation and other CSO's for supporting the event. "Intouch team, you are always superstars and amazing," said Intouch's Ronald Kapaso.

Buhle wins Face of Devotion 2023 pageant



Local model, Buhle Fanie, looks forward to representing Gauteng at the Face of Devotion SA competition

Drieziek 5's Buhle Fanie, was recently crowned the Teen Overall Winner at the Face of Devotion pageant finale held at Ramkiki Lodge in Ruimsig. Fanie told *Orange Farm News*: "I was nervous when they crowned the 1st princess, 2nd Princess and the Teen Queen, thinking I wouldn't make it. After the MC announced me as the Teen Overall Winner, I

rocked the stage dancing." Fanie will represent the Gauteng Province in the national competition – Face of Devotion South Africa – on 9 December 2023. She thanks Chocolate Den, an Edenvale-based company, for donating towards the tickets she was required to sell as part of the pageant's fundraising. OFN wishes Buhle all the success.

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Local entrepreneur to launch Mondy Que maize meal



Bringing food security to kasi: Abongile Mbangula

To generate capital for his Mondy Que food production business, Abongile Mbangula, will host the Top Notch Music Festival at Bakgatlang Pub and Grill on 27 May.

He seeks funds to resume production and pay his assistants. "The market for food production is very high because people eat everyday. By purchasing a ticket, you would have helped reduce the high rate of unemployment and boost food security in the community," Mbangula told OFN. The Drieziek 4 entrepreneur founded his business in 2020. Last year, he won R50 000 business funding after pitching at the Township Entrepreneur Alliance (TEA) that was held at the Chris Hani Sports Complex Hall. He used the funds to purchase machinery for his maize meal business.

He added: "I registered Mondy Que when I was doing my 3rd year at the University of Johannesburg (UJ) before I

dropped out in my final year due to financial challenges. At the time, I had no agricultural background, it was just a dream of owning a maize meal company using my father's machine.

Tim Abba, an agriculture trainer helped me a lot, he gave me skills and knowledge on this type of business. I'm now focusing on expanding my business and creating jobs for locals."

Mbangula aims to see Orange Farm, residents consuming locally produced maize meal and aspires to get his products into all the big retail stores nationwide.

He quotes the Bible's 2 Corinthians 9 vs 6:

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

For info, 076 747 4530.

Mama Mmoja seeks venue



Single parent, Vinolia Motalingoane, is the brains and passion behind Mama Mmoja

WE KNOW, WE UNDERSTAND, WE CARE

Vinolia Motalingoane, founded Mama Mmoja Support Center in 2019, to provide a safe space for single mothers to talk about their challenges, find support, table solutions and inspire each other.

With no premises to carry out their work, the organisation faces a bleak future. Mama Mmoja was using a church and community hall but both are no longer available. As an NPO with no funding, it can't afford to rent a place and appeals for the support of the municipality or a good samaritan to help with space to carry out Mama Mmoja programmes. Motalingoane has been asking for help for a long time with no positive response. She told OFN: "We have not been conducting our regular sessions and it breaks my heart that we are facing such a challenge and no one seems to care about the value of the work we do. Mama Mmoja helps single mothers, they go through a lot and need such programs to help them manage their lives positively, relieve stress and more. I plead with the municipality to give us a place to work in. Please help us." To help Mama Mmoja, please call 063 123 3169.



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George FC wins Workers Day 5-a-side tourney



CELEBRATIONS: George FC players cheerful after their games at Old Park, Orange Farm Ext 6

George FC took home a R1 000 cash prize, trophy and medals after defeating Lost FC on penalties following a goal-less draw in the finals of the 5-a-side Top 8 Football Tournament at the Orange Farm Ext 6a Old Park on 1 May.

The games were hosted by Kasi Lifestyle Events and Avendas, participating teams included Shumaya FC;

Manyora FC; Chillas FC; Loadshedding FC; Junior FC and Shef And The Kitchen FC. One of the organisers, Mpho Kganyapa Thulo, told *Orange Farm News*: "We are very happy with the turnaround of the tournament. Thanks to all the teams, match officials and supporters who came out in numbers. Going forward, we will be working closely with Avendas to bring you more of such events."

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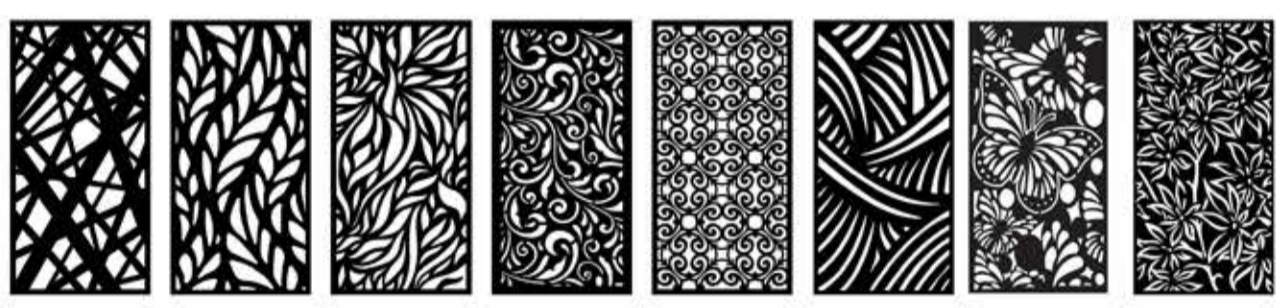
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