

■ DEVELOPMENT

Land restitution pledge



PUBLIC Works Minister Patricia de Lille with Janap Solomon, 86, a claimant from the Hadjie Solomon Family Trust who lodged a claim for the Constantia land in 1994. | SUPPLIED

Promise to release 100 parcels of land

MARVIN CHARLES
marvin.charles@inl.co.za

PUBLIC Works Minister Patricia de Lille has made a bold promise to release 100 parcels of land for restitution.

De Lille was speaking at the opening of the Constantia Emporium shopping centre development by the Hadjie Solomon family, who lodged a claim for the land in 1994.

Their claim was finalised in 2010 and the family received the title deed to their land in Constantia in 2012.

"Homes and families were ripped apart by the Group Areas Act and the course of lives of thousands of families in South Africa changed forever when they were removed from areas like Constantia, Bishopscourt and District Six," De Lille said.

"In my current role as Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, my department is also responsible for transferring land currently in our custodianship that has been claimed in restitution cases.

"My department is part of the rapid land release programme that also includes land restitution, land redistribution and land tenure.

"In the last financial year, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure released 51 parcels of land for restitution," De Lille said. She said the department was now in the process of releasing 100 parcels of land for restitution to the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, to transfer land back to claimants.

"I'm committed to ensuring that we fast-track this process. As an activist who fought against apartheid it's my great honour to serve our country," De Lille said.

The Hadjie Abdullah Solomon Family Trust submitted development plans back in 2016 to allow the Shoprite Checkers property division to build a R250million retail centre across two properties bounded by Kendal, Spaanschemat and Ladies Mile roads.

The other property belonged to the Hadji Ismail Solomon Family Trust and would be consolidated for the purpose of development.

Checkers would be the major tenant, leasing the land from the trusts for a twice renewable 10-year period. But the Constantia Ratepayers' and Residents' Association rejected the plans and decided to go to court.

The association raised concerns about a shopping mall in the middle of a residentially zoned area.

Earlier this month, judgment was handed down in the Western Cape High Court that ruled against the association, and costs were awarded against it.

The association said: "It was decided to prepare an appeal and at the same time negotiate a settlement with the Solomon Trusts, Shoprite Checkers and the City (the respondents). The respondents agreed to abandon the costs order and in exchange the association withdrew its application for leave to appeal.

"The matter is now closed."

■ GBV

Hate crime battle focuses on Nyanga

MTHUTHUZELI NTSEKU
mthuthuzeli.ntseku@inl.co.za

MORE than 400 people attended the Triangle Project event in Nyanga to educate children and parents on gender-based violence ahead of the start of the 16 Days of Activism today.

Triangle Project is a human rights organisation offering professional services to ensure the full realisation of constitutional rights for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) community.

The project's Pharie Sefali said Nyanga was known for hate crimes.

"It was important for us to do the demonstrations so that the community can be informed and act against these crimes.

"As one of the speakers said, men of Nyanga need to stop abusing women and children and raping them. They are a problem and people do not feel safe anymore," she said.

The demonstration also shone a light on the killings of women from the LGBTI community in the township.

"The LGBTI community is hated and perpetrators think it is their responsibility to 'correct' the LGBTI

community through hate crime.

"It's going to be the festive season and there will be more cases of correctional rapes, rapes of women and children, hate crimes and murders," she said.

She said abuse was rife in the township because of psychosocial issues coupled with masculinity and entitlement.

"I think poverty, unemployment and mental health are issues. There are few support structures for the community and also the problem is dysfunctional families.

"Crimes and murders are hap-

pening every day in the community because the community doesn't know how to address these things."

Addressing the crowd, Nyanga police station commander Captain NP Sitshitshi said domestic violence affected children.

"Substance abuse by parents leads to violence. Parents should create a good relationship with children and constantly check on them so that they are open to them," she said.

Sitshitshi advised parents to deal with their differences "amicably", so that children were not exposed to violence, which they emulate.

■ INITIATIVE

Finding digital solutions to GBV

KAUTHAR GOOL
kauthar.gool@inl.co.za

NGO GirlHype, along with Silicon Cape, the US Embassy, Hack On and LoudHailor, hosted a hackathon aiming to find tangible technological solutions to the problem of violence against women and children.

The two-day event kicked off on Saturday and ended yesterday, with a wide range of digital solutions to gender-based violence (GBV).

According to Zimkhita Buwa, a director at Silicon Cape, the event was open to technology innovators, investors, entrepreneurs, industry experts, developers, IT professionals, trainers, NGOs, students and academics in order for a wide range of solutions to emerge.

Thokozile Miya, programme director at GirlHype, said that during the hackathon, attendees were able to explore what can be done to make communities safer, investigate how best to respond to threats and produce digital solutions that could save lives.

Kamogelo Matjila, a computer science student at the UWC and her teammates presented the idea of an app that would be able to alert security personnel at UWC should a woman need assistance.

"The app, called Memeza, which roughly translates from Zulu to 'speak out' works by the user simply shouting 'help' or tapping their phones - whether the device is locked or unlocked - to alert security at the university that the person needs assistance; the app has a 10-second waiting period, so if the user double-tapped by mistake, they can simply click 'cancel' to deactivate the alert," she said.

"I decided to take part in the hackathon because I was previously a victim of GBV and wanted to help find solutions to this scourge."

Lucky Mkhaskhasa, entrepreneur

at technology company Inspired Testing, along with his team, developed the Y3A app idea that would alert people within a person's community of friends and family that they needed help.

"People can select five people to be part of their 'community', these are people they trust and who have the app: it could be a boyfriend, mother or friend who can assist when the alert is activated. The alert is activated through a person shaking their phone and if they accidentally activated the alert, there is a cancel option."

There were also digital ideas pitched that involved tech wearables.

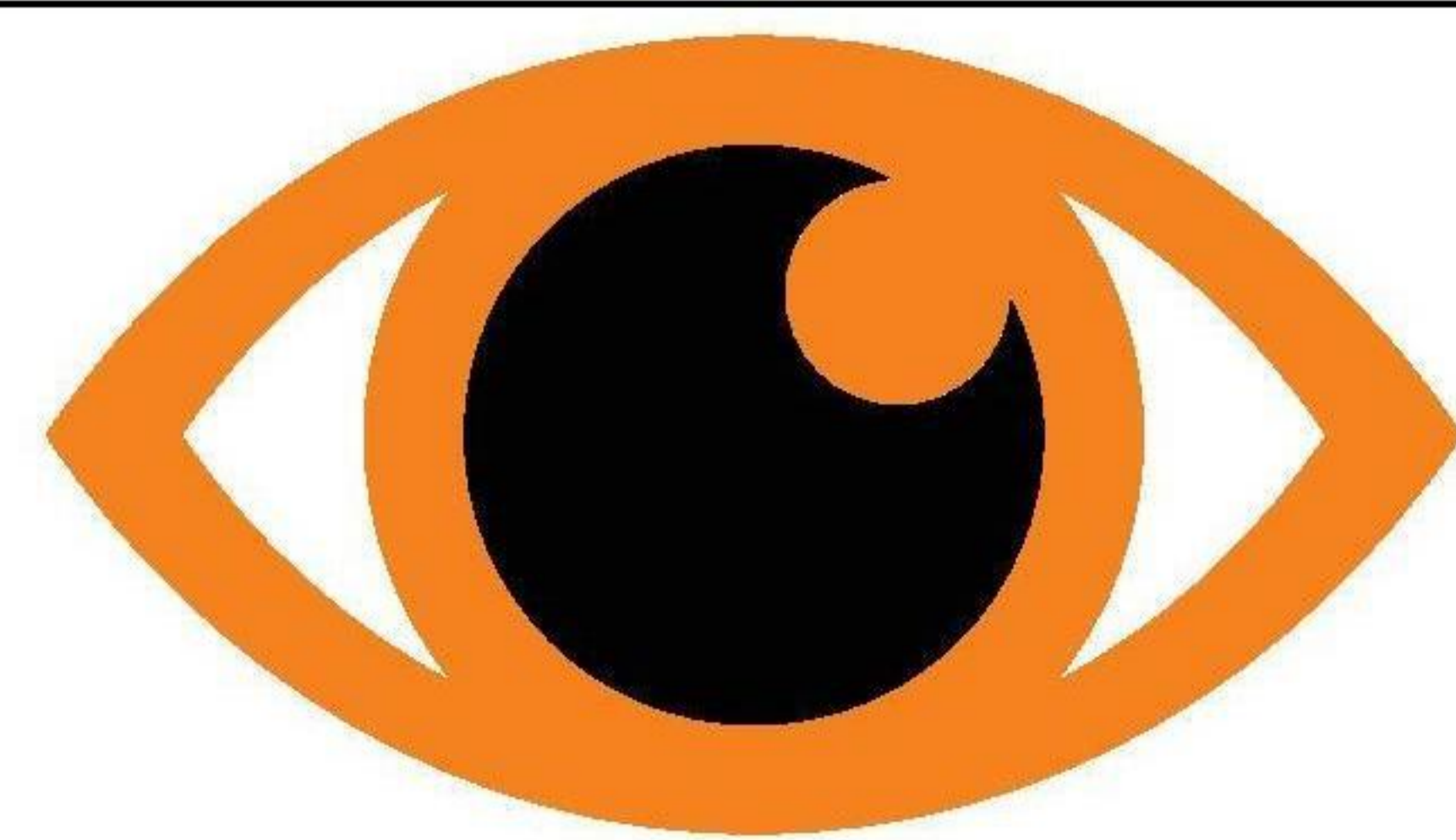
“Once the bracelet detects harm... police will be alerted

Rushni Collins
SOCIAL WORKER

Rushni Collins, social worker at NGO Nicro, which counsels both victims and perpetrators of GBV, said that she and her team came up with the idea of a bracelet that would be able to detect a woman being pushed around and harmed.

"Once the bracelet detects that a woman is being harmed, the neighbourhood watch, community policing forum and nearby police stations will be alerted, but we still need to figure out how to make sure that if a woman is simply jogging or working out that the app will not be activated," she said.

"The preliminary name of the wearable is 'Trigger'."



DON'T LOOK AWAY

ACT TO END GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

#TALK2YOURBOYS

South African women experience violence on a horrific scale and our country shamefully ranks as having amongst the most abusive men in the world. Men harass, assault, rape and murder women daily, leaving women to live in fear at home, at work, at school and in public spaces. The vicious cycle of toxic masculinity must be addressed at the source. This is why Independent Media's award-winning Don't Look Away campaign, in support of the global 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence, will this year challenge men, young and old, to break the cycle of violence, to end toxic masculinity and to never look away from gender-based violence. Join us in our campaign using the slogan #talk2yourboys to make SA safer.



PODCASTS

LISTEN: SA comedian and TV presenter Nina Hastie shares her life's journey and how she overcame her painful past. Link: <http://bit.ly/2Klb9E0>NinaHastie



WHATSAPP

074 557 3535 GET INVOLVED! Share your thoughts on toxic masculinity and how it affects our society. Remember to add #DontLookAway

GET INVOLVED

LIMPOPO

• President Cyril Ramaphosa to mark the start of 16 Days of activism, Witpoort police station, Lephalale, 9am, 25 November.

CAPE TOWN

- Mindfulness Yoga: St Annes Homes, 25 November 2019, Sonja Jensen 076 285 4656
- Nia Dance: 26 November 2019 082 462 4844
- Human Rights: St Annes Homes, 26 November 2019, Judy Rose Cyster 021 762 7971
- Drumming "The Only thing you hit is a Drum!": Company Gardens, 27 November 2019, Celeste Solomons 083 981 7962
- Golf Day GBV "Men hit balls not women": Rondesbosch Golf Club, 28 November 2019, Celeste Solomons 083 981 7962
- Positive Parenting: St Annes Homes, 29 November 2019, Narwhaal Jacobs 021 762 0116
- Marketing/GBV Awareness: Paarl, 30 November 2019, Susan Fernandes sfernandes@telkomsa.net
- Family Preservation: De Grendel Swimming Pools, Goodwood, 7 December 2019, Theresia Buys 021 448 8513

KZN

- 16 Days of Activism discussion offering free legal advice, 9am to 12pm, Nelson Mandela Community Youth Centre, Chatsworth, 25- 27 November. Clive Pillay 061 429 2574
- Follow-up dialogue with Deputy Minister of Justice, John Jeffreys, Substance abuse and gender-based violence. Booking is essential and free. 10am, AFM Church, Chatsworth, 11 December. Sam Pillay 082 954 4835
- **Jes Foord Foundation**
 - * Awareness programme with SAPS and the NPA, Addington Primary School, Durban, 26 November. JFF 0861 333 449
 - * Awareness programme with CPF and SAPS for Point Police Station, Durban Central, 28 November. JFF 0861 333 449
 - * Awareness campaign Molweni and Hammersdale, 30 November. JFF 0861 333 449
 - * Christmas party for 64 sexually assaulted children (Pinetown court cases) - 70 colouring books and volunteers needed, Durban, 5 December. JFF 0861 333 449
 - * Christmas party in Scottburgh for 120 children who have been to the trauma centre at GJ Crookes Hospital in 2019. Christmas presents needed. Scottburgh, 6 December. JFF 0861 333 449

EASTERN CAPE

- Sonke Gender Justice unveils 16 Days of Activism mural. Butterworth Main Road (opposite Sasol Garage) 25 November, 11.45am

More on page 13

IOL.CO.ZA

◆ Dad pays tribute to murdered daughter Jesse Hess.

◆ Hospital highlights GBV by displaying X-rays of women attacked by men.