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Rustenburg **Herald's Bonus**

04 APRIL 2022

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Rustenburg Rapid Transport under scrutiny

Jabulani Senyatso of Rustenburg Herald and Bonus in deep discussion with Rustenburg Rapid Transport/Yarona's Theron Rapoo and Nnusi Gazi - head of Communications and Marketing and Kgotla PR Communications for Yarona respectively on the eve of the past weekend. During recent months if not years, the Rustenburg Rapid Transport project found itself under public scrutiny as a result of the project's apparent snail's pace progress and the repeated extension of its completion date. A full report with as many questions answered as possible on where this project is going will be published by Rustenburg Herald/Bonus shortly.



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Deadline for renewal of drivers' licences extended

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - The Department of Transport has again extended the grace period for renewing expired driving licences to 15 April 2021. This comes as the deadline for the renewal of expired driving licences ended on 31 March 2022. In August 2021, Transport Minister, Fikile Mbalula, announced the extension of learner's licences, driving licence cards, temporary driving licences, and professional driving permits for a grace period ending on 31 March 2022. This was part of government measures in response to the lockdown in the management of COVID-19. Updating the media on the deadline for the extension of licence validity in Midrand on Friday, Mbalula said after consultation with MECs and the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), the department has decided to extend the grace period of the validity of driving licences, which expired between 26 March 2020 and 31 August 2021, to 15 April 2022. He said the number of driving licence cards, for which renewal applications are still to be made, stands at 1 424 756, a reduction from 2 813 016. "This means that only 49% of the affected motorists have applied for renewal of their expired driving licences... Motorists are not coming forward to renew their licences for a variety of reasons. "As of 28 March 2022, we had produced 628 150 driving licence cards, reducing the backlog of cards to be printed to 522 839. This is in respect of those who have already applied to renew their licences," Mbalula said. Operating hours extended to weekends The Minister also announced that the department has agreed with the MECs that they will extend the operating hours of the driving licence testing centre (DLTCs) in different provinces and open over weekends. "The DLCA [Driving Licence Card Account] is already operating 24 hours a day to produce cards, with approval having been granted by the DPSA [Department of Public Service and Administration] for them to exceed the 30% cap on overtime," he said. Research on possible changes to renewal period underway Meanwhile, Mbalula announced that the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) has been commissioned to undertake research on possible changes to the renewal periods.

Fuel levy reduced to cushion consumers

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - South African Finance Minister Enock Godongwana has tabled a proposal that will see the fuel levy being reduced by R1.50 cents per litre.

Speaking at a sitting of the National Assembly on Thursday (31 March), Godongwana said the temporary fuel levy cut will come into effect this Wednesday, and will remain in effect until the end of May. His proposal will reduce the levy for petrol from R3.85 cents per litre to R2.35 cents per litre, while the diesel will be reduced from R3.70 cents per litre to R2.20 cents per litre. Godongwana said with the fuel levy reduction being a temporary measure, a broader package of relief measures will be explored, and they will come into effect after the expiry of the two-month fuel levy reduction.





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New National Police Commissioner appointed

President Cyril Ramaphosa last week announced Sehlahle Fannie Masemola as the new National Police Commissioner. Masemola carries the baton from General Khehla Sithole, who vacated the position after reaching mutual consent with the President in February. Ramaphosa said he believes Masemola is a "fit and proper" person for the role. He has been a Deputy Police Commissioner with an outstanding record of achievements in policing across South Africa according to the President.

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Ernest Roberts and Henry Köhne. (Image: Andre Schoeman)

Rustenburg Herald's Bonus

Sport News

First special vehicle victory for Roberts/Köhne at soggy Mpumalanga 400

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - The weather at the Mpumalanga 400 has traditionally been one of the major factors in the outcome of the Mpumalanga 400 and it was no different at the 2022 event, the season opener of the SA Rally-Raid Championship that took place on Friday and Saturday, 25 and 26 March in the Dullstroom area. Good rains before the race and a downpour on Friday night resulted in conditions that added to the challenges of the Special Vehicle Category.

The Mpumalanga 400 was a Super Event with a short 20 kilometre Pirelli Qualifying Race that determined the starting order for the first 85 kilometre loop on Friday and with 100 kilometres in the bag, two more loops of 150 kilometres each as well as more rain awaited the teams on Saturday. In the end, a trouble free and flawless race saw Ernest Roberts and Henry Köhne, who recently completed the Dakar Rally as a team, take the Special Vehicle Category and the Class A win in their JCP Steel Supplies CR 6.

A wet and muddy race with rain on the route and tricky rocky sections really tested the teams in the Special Vehicle Category. There were still smiles all around and much anticipated excitement for the remainder of the season.



Lady footballers (rugby) of Rustenburg Impala and Ikageng posing with management and coaches of Rustenburg Impala Rugby Club after the first game of ladies rugby in more than 20 years was hosted at Impala over the weekend.

Ladies rugby back at Rustenburg Impala

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - After more than two decades ladies' football (rugby) has been re-introduced at Rustenburg Impala Rugby Club.

This new era was inaugurated at the club on Saturday with a ladies game between Rustenburg Impala's Ladies and a ladies' team from Ikageng. According to chief coach, Trevor Visser, the ladies have done really well and the final score of 10 points each is the ideal indication of how well the two sides were matched. It is almost beyond imagination to see the passion and commitment displayed by these girls - this is something that could draw larger crowds to the field of Rustenburg Impala in future. Jolanie Oberholzer and Abigail Maritz were the two top performers of the day with one try each. In turn, Angelique Hefer proved that she had an accurate boot and that her defense was to be reckoned with.

Another addition at Rustenburg Impala was the installation of new, modern technology flood lights at the stadium. This feature will allow Rustenburg Impala to host night games and the crowds will be pleased to know that the excitement of rugby can also be enjoyed well after dark.

Rustenburg Impala wishes to thank Kobus Marais and Kevin Rademeyer of IES Consulting and Turn Key as well as Koos Mouton of CDI Electrical for supplying and installation of the new lighting system. Ladies who might be interested in joining ladies rugby are more than welcome to contact Wynand Burger on 061 530 3193. Please note that the ladies are practicing on Mondays and Wednesdays from 18:00 - make sure you are present if you wish to join in a lot of fun.

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