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# Mother Nature, please make Ducky's day

It's been a long dry winter, but now – hopefully – Rustenburg is due for a bit of relief. In the meantime, we are celebrating in advance a number of good days for ducks! According to weather services, rain can be expected from Monday evening (17 October), with thunderstorms predicted for Tuesday and Wednesday, as well as Saturday and Sunday. Please remember that, at this stage, the city's reservoirs are under pressure – use water, as always, sparingly.



Bigger, Better & Fresher Coming Soon! Just for you!! WEAT WARKET OPENING SOONE Revamp Taking Place, We Apologies for any Inconvenience.



17 OCTOBER 2022



# ademie/Academy 8001 Point duty back in Rustenburg!

A sight for sore eyes so to speak! Can you imagine - for at least the past two generations a traffic officer has been the very last thing any motorist would have wanted to encounter on any South African road. This had however changed in a matter of a few short years with point duty being badly neglected if not abandoned altogether by local authorities throughout the country. On Monday morning however, frustrated Rustenburg motorists were pleasantly surprised to see a "traffic controller" at point duty on the notorious Helen Joseph bridge during the similarly notorious early morning school opening peak hour. To this gentleman we are at liberty to say on behalf of the entire Rustenburg community - welcome to our streets Sir!

# Government may relax criteria for R350 grant further

RUSTENBURG HERALD - RUSTENBURG - Development Minister Lindiwe Zulu has apologised to

# 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) campaign

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - "This year, the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) start on 25 November (the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) and run until 10 December (International Human Rights Day).

Not only during this campaign - but for many days before and many days after - we want to get our message out there, loud and clear: We are calling for male voices to amplify the voices of women... to step up, stand up and speak up for their mothers, daughters, wives, sisters, grandmothers, cousins and aunts.

Extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures, and as the statistics on GBV soar and get more horrendous, the more important it is to call on South Africans – more specifically men – to do their bit to turn the tide on this scourge that is literally drowning our beautiful nation.

While men and boys are unfortunately also sometimes victims of GBV, it is important to note that this atrocity disproportionately affects women and girls as there is a correlation between females' subordinate status in our society and their increased vulnerability to violence. It is because of these unequal power relationships that we are calling on all men (perpetrators and non-perpetrators) to become defenders of women.

There is no more space on the side-lines! Men can no longer continue to allow the violence to perpetuate. Remaining silent when knowing of or witnessing any acts of violence against women and children, makes them complicit in this savage act. It is time for men to stop being silent; it is time for men to refuse to condone violence against women and children; it is time for men to challenge traditional norms influencing notions of manhood and the crisis of masculinity; it is time for men to take accountability; it is time for men to break the cycle!

TEARS Foundation, a South African-based non-profit organisation, assists any victim of GBV, nationally, 24/7, regardless of ethnicity, religion, age, gender, socio-economic background, or location. Furthermore, TEARS Foundation provides access to crisis intervention, advocacy, counselling, and prevention education services for those impacted by GBV, domestic violence and child sexual abuse, through the various TEARS portals:

Help at your fingertips, \*134\*7355#Storefinder locator: https://tears.storefind.mobi/Helpline: 010 590 5920 (Standard rates apply)Email address: info@tears.co.za. All these platforms are monitored 24/7 – 365 days a year, nationwide, with a free service to anyone who has access to a phone".



recipients of the R350 Covid-19 Social Relief of Distress (SRD) grant for problems in its administration after the end of the national state of disaster early in April.

She was speaking at a media briefing in Pretoria on Monday (10 October). The issues resulted in a drop in recipients from 10.5 million to a level where less than half the allocated budget was utilised."We regret the pain and hardships that these challenges occasioned for many of you for whom this intervention is the difference between, on the one hand, hunger and indignity, and on another, leading a dignified life," said Zulu. She explained that a switch from operating under the Disaster Management Act to the Social Assistance Act required the development of new regulations in compliance with the Public Finance Management Act. The department had to develop additional qualifying criteria, including a means test that was implemented by checking the bank accounts of prospective recipients to see if they had inflows of R350 or more from other sources. They had to negotiate with the banks for them to implement the means test.

"Consequently, in the first three months of

implementing this benefit, we experienced very serious challenges whose net effect was implementation delays." She said the low uptake of the grant remains a challenge for the department. "For us as the Social Development portfolio this is very serious indictment because we continue to see the growing numbers of hungry and distressed people in the communities where we work." In August the criteria were simplified and the threshold increased to R624 per month, in line with the estimated food poverty line. The number of applicants subsequently increased to 12 million. "We may have to consider a further adjustment to the threshold to enable more applicants to qualify for the benefit," Zulu said. She announced that nearly 7.5 million people are currently receiving the grant every month, still short of the target of 10.5 million. Zulu also cautioned that the programme should keep to within the monthly budgeted amount of R44 billion and the department should take care to not over-commit government.

Op Woensdag 12 Oktober 2022 het die Theron-familie van Spruitfontein - Rustenburg en later Pretoria, vir Ria Theron, eggenote van Pieter Theron van die Rustenburg Herald, in die ouderdom van 91 jaar en 10 maande gegroet. Sy was oral bekend en bemind en sal onthou word vir haar betrokkenheid en hulpvaardigheid in haar gemeenskap. Sy word oorleef deur haar eggenoot Pieter Theron, haar drie kinders, Christo, Louisa (Lulu) en Andries en hul egas, 6 kleinkinders en 7 agterkleinkinders. 'n Gedenkdiens ter nagedagtenis aan haar lewe word op Vrydag 21 Oktober om 11:00 vanuit die NG Kerk Oosterlig, 469 Leastraat, Waterkloof Glen, Pretoria, aangebied.

# Accused attorney's ill health reason for postponement

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - The Rustenburg Regional Court postponed the case against Betty Diale(52), to 4 November owing to her ill health.

According to Henry Mamothame, National Prosecuting Authority (NPO) spokesperson, Diale's defense attorney provided the court with her medical certificate. A warrant of arrest has been issued against her, but will be withheld until the next court appearance. Failure to appear in court will result in the warrant of arrest being actioned. Mamothame said that the state was ready to proceed with the motion to set a pre-trial date in preparation for trial, however, did not oppose the postponement. Diale is facing six charges of theft, amounting to approximately R700 000, allegedly stolen from the Road Accident Fund(RAF) claimants. Police reports reveal that Fidelity Funds, a body that oversees the conduct of attorneys, received several complaints from the RAF claimants, whose payments were deposited into Diale's trust account. The claimants alleged that the said money did not reach them, after the payout and henceforth, reported to the police for investigation. Diale was practicing as an attorney during the alleged commission of the crimes between 2009 and 2011. She was charged in June 2021. The Legal Practice Council has struck her off the roll, preventing her from practising as an attorney.

# Phase 2 load-shedding to continue this week

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Eskom has suspended stage 2 load-shedding at midnight only to resume the same level of power cuts from Monday to Wednesday during the evenings.

From Monday, stage 2 load-shedding will be implemented daily from 16:00 to midnight. Eskom said the load-shedding was required to help manage



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emergency generation reserves during the evenings. "We currently have 5, 244 MW on planned maintenance, while another 15, 612MW of capacity is unavailable due to breakdowns," the utility said. "Since yesterday afternoon, two generation units at Grootvlei, as well as a unit each at Kriel and Majuba power stations, were returned to service." However, a generation unit at the Lethabo power station was taken offline for repairs. Eskom will publish a further update on Wednesday, or as soon as any further significant changes occur. The table below summarises the load-shedding stages Eskom plans to implement until Wednesday, 19 October 2022





the day with us!

CHABITY GOLF DAY

# Transnet strike is emptying store shelves

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Not only can shelves in stores start to run empty by next week, fuel pumps will be under pressure - which means load-shedding may also increase.

The ongoing strike at Transnet has effectively shut down South across-the-board increase of between 4.5%. Africa's ports - with the country only a week away from having the The unions have, however, rejected the revised backlogs affect the availability of items on store shelves.

Strike action by both the South African Transport and Allied Workers better aligned with consumer inflation at 7.6% Union (Satawu) and the United National Transport Union (Untu) has a would be preferable. critical impact on the country's imports and exports.

Over 40,000 employees have downed tools. Transnet has tabled an & Arbitration (CCMA) has urged the striking

# **Billions spent at Eskom** but less power generated

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Between 2007 and 2021, Eskom invested R680 billion to increase its generation capacity.

However, after this huge investment, Eskom produced less power than when it started.

Eskom started to ramp up its capital expenditure (Capex) in 2007 when South Africa started to experience electricity shortages. Load-shedding first occurred in late 2007, and the new Medupi and Kusile power stations were touted as the solution to the country's power problems.Construction on Medupi and Kusile started in 2007 with initial budgets of R79 billion and R81 billion, respectively.

The completion dates were set to be 2012 and 2014. Nothing went as planned.

There was poor planning, strikes, corruption, mismanagement, delays, and budget overruns.

Fifteen years after construction started, neither Medupi nor Kusile are fully operational and produce far less power than the planned design capacity of 4,800MW.The two coal-powered giants have significantly exceeded the initial budget, with Medupi reaching a cost of R145 billion and Kusile reaching R161.4 hillion

However, it is not the end. In September, President Cyril Ramaphosa said Eskom would need an additional R33 billion to complete Medupi and Kusile.

The two projects pushed Eskom's capital expenditure to record levels, reaching well over R50 billion per year between 2010 and 2017.South Africans would have loved to see increased power production at the end of this huge investment.

It did not happen. In fact, following the intensive capital expenditure, Eskom's electricity production decreased. The chart below, which uses data from Eskom's annual reports, shows Eskom's capital expenditure versus its power production since 1990. It shows that the more money Eskom spent on increasing its power generation, the less power it produced.

In 2000 things started to go south at Eskom. Today, Eskom only generates 8.75 GWh per R1 million spent on capital expansions. From 2007 to 2021, Eskom had total capital expenditure of R680 billion intended to expand its power-generating assets. However, its power generation fell from 232,445 GWh to 201,400 GWh over this period.

It means that Eskom destroyed 46 GWh of power generation per R1 billion spent on increasing its power generation.



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offer by the employer, noting that something

The Commission for Conciliation, Mediation unions to make a compromise with the employer to ensure that the economy is not crippled by the strike action.

However, in a statement over the weekend, Satawu said that labour would not back down until three conditions are met:

A wage increase at or above inflation is granted;

A no-retrenchment clause is negotiated;

Increases are back-paid - either once-off or in two instalments.

Experts are of opinion that, if the strike continues for another week, groceries at popular retailers like Woolworths, Pick n Pay and Checkers will start to "diminish rapidly".

If the strike continues for a week more, then motorists will also start having problems - at petrol stations.

Further warnings have come from the petroleum sector, with Eskom saying that its reliance on diesel will ultimately be affected if the ongoing strike leads to disruptions of fuel imports.

The strike is holding up some R8 billion in exports a day - a crisis six times worse than the ongoing energy crisis.

Business Leadership South Africa (BLSA) CEO Busi Mavuso said that the strike action, like the illegal Eskom strike action before it, makes it questionable whether labour can be trusted as a social partner to promote the interests of the country.

"Its actions show it is quite willing to hold the economy to ransom while it demands clearly unaffordable and unrealistic wage increases," said Mavuso. "Given the inertia in reforming the wider transport and rail systems, I also question whether government itself fully appreciates how urgent the situation is."

The logistics sector needs to be fundamentally altered to allow private sector involvement in infrastructure assets, maintenance and movement of goods. BLSA believes this will strengthen Transnet's revenue streams and sustainability, not weaken them.

Unfortunately, repeated offers from organised businesses to assist in accelerating this and various other reforms to put Transnet on a sounder operational and financial footing have been rebuffed.

Similarly, the government seems incapable or unwilling to act against the incidents of wanton sabotage to rail lines, including cable theft, that is clearly conducted by organised criminal syndicates, said Mavuso.

# DON'T UKY Madi akapele moo bankeng ya hao kapa Ka tlung ya hao Ka Pele, ho wina lotto, hotlisa Madi moo waleteng, reng e tlisang Madi, ho kgutlisa monna kapa mosadi o

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# OCTOBER 2 GREAT MOMENTS AT

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# Blank Space competition - new entries awaited



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BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Our Blank Space Art competition is now just over over two months from the final judging wherein all monthly/quarterly winners of the past year will face their fellow finalists after which two overall winners will be announced with each winning a valuable Pick n Pay shopping voucher to the value of R10 000.



Tel no: .....

17 OCTOBER 2022

These prizes are sponsored by Pick n Pay Azalea Park in Greystone Crossing and Pick n Pay Lifestyle Square in Beyers Naudé Drive. By now just about everybody knows the rules and regulations. There is no entry fee, you can enter as many artworks as you wish, you could use any medium you like, provided that your entry fit into out standard entry boxes (A4) at both Pick n Pay Stores and reception of Rustenburg Herald in 13 Coetzer Street. Get those entries rolling please!



# Friends of Free Wildlife - BirdLife Rustenburg

### Bushbaby.

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Many wild animals have made our gardens and other urban areas their home because of the availability of food - but such animals also face many challenges such as avoiding people and domestic animals.

There is also the possibility of consuming food that is not suited for them and or poisons, pesticides or medical waste.

Friends of Free Wildlife is a communitybased, public-funded volunteer organisation. It was founded in December 2015 by passionate and qualified wildlife rehabilitators with the best interest of our urban wildlife as a founding mandate. Their vision is to create a well-respected, ethical wildlife rehabilitation centre that provides for the care of urban wildlife - the rescue, rehabilitation and release of the animals that share our space

On Monday 17 October 2022, Janice Walker and Willem Slabber, two volunteers will share some of their work at the rehabilitation centre. This will take place at 18:30 at the Methodist Church on the corner of Brink and Schuurman Streets.

All members and non-members are welcome - non-members pay R30 per person.

Feel free to contact the chairperson, Shaun McGillewie, on 083 702 1462 or Charles Foot at 073 452 3874 should you wish to learn more about BirdLife Rustenburg and would like to attend the events.

# Is your Chocolate

# or to orean

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Does your or your** wife's chocolate cake have what it takes to be crowned as the best chocolate cake in town?

Or does this honour belong to your mother-inlaw or you male chef friend who is a champion in the kitchen?

Well sweet-toothed friend, you could be in for a nice surprise - a winning prize of R3 000 is up for grabs for the best chocolate cake in an open community competition to be held at the Paul Bodenstein Park's Market Day on Saturday, 29 October.

This initiative is organised by friends and sponsors of "Make Rustenburg Great Again" and proceeds on the day will go towards restoring the former glory of the Paul Bodenstein Park.

> The entry fee for the chocolate cake competition is R150 per cake and is payable at registration on 29 October.

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Cakes must be handed in at 09:00 and judging will start at exactly 10:30. For more information on entering chocolate cake the competition or any other detail you need, contact Johann on 076 452 9152 or email info@ underthecherryblossom co.za



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# Post Office can't pay staff medical aid, but subsidises government grant payments

BONUS - RUSTENBURG - The South African Post Office (Sapo) was subsidising the government's R350 Social Relief of Distress (SRD) grants even while it couldn't afford to pay medical aid contributions for its employees, despite deducting them from salaries.

Post Office CEO Nomkhita Mona, during an interview employer can be held liable both in a civil and criminal subsidises half of the costs associated with paying the aid contributions," Benadie said. grants. "I don't know how many South Africans know is just over R30. What we were being paid by Sassa was maximum of ten years. R15. Nobody runs a business like that.'

According to the Post Office's annual report for 2022, it processed 15.2 million grants to beneficiaries during the 2021/22 financial year. At R15 for each grant processed, the Post Office paid around R228 million out of its own funds during the financial year to cover the costs. While the amount is just shy of a third of the R700 million Sapo owes Medipos, Mona explained that other factors beyond Sapo's control have contributed to its ailing financial situation. "There are a number of things that would have actually kept the Post Office behind, while everyone around it thrives," Mona stated. "One of the big albatrosses on our shoulders is the fact that we inherited billions of debt from previous people who had managed the Post Office," she said. "The things we find underneath the surface have actually been shackling the Post Office." According to Mona, Sapo has also had to subsidise the South African government concerning its universal service obligation. A Director at Pretoria-based law firm Barnard Inc., Koos Benadie, said that if the Post Office was indeed deducting contributions and not paying them over, it had violated the Financial Services Laws General Amendment Act 45 of 2013 (FSGAA). "The

with SABC News, explained that the Post Office capacity for non-payment of pension fund and medical

"The criminal charges would be brought against the this, [but] the Post Office has been subsidising the board of directors of the South African Post Office." The government in the delivery of the [SRD] grants," she FSGAA stipulates that anyone found guilty faces a fine said. "Our cost of delivering that service over the counter of up to R10 million and possible imprisonment for a





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Libbie Janse van Rensburg (Photo: Springbokrugby)

# Women'sWorldWorldCup:Fiji tooStrongStrongfor SA





**BONUS - TUSTENBURG - Karalaini Naisewa scored the winning try in the dying seconds as Fiji secured their first-ever women's World Cup win with a 21-17 victory over South Africa in an entertaining, if sometimes chaotic pool C match, in Auckland on Sunday.** 

The South Africans looked like they had secured a first win of the tournament when flyhalf Libbie Janse van Rensburg slotted a penalty to break a 14-14 deadlock with two

of the tournament, however, and some of the collisions at Waitakere Stadium were brutal. The Fijiana, thrashed last week by England, ran pretty much every piece possession they had and eschewed the breakdown where they could by offloading to try and breach the steely South African defence. Rather than tighten up the match, South Africa joined in the fun with centre Zintle Mpupha's first-half try coming from a free-wheeling run around the backfield and then through a big gap in the defence. Tries from wingers Ilisapeci Delaiwau and Akanisi Sokoiwasa gave Fiji a 14-7 halftime lead, but outstanding South Africa No 8 Aseza Hele levelled up the scores by crossing around the hour mark. "At the beginning, we saw that Fiji was speeding up the game, which was something we knew was going to happen," said crestfallen South African skipper Nolusindiso Booi. "We just failed to implement our own plan and we let them take it."

minutes on the clock.

The Fijiana, playing in their first World Cup, charged back down the other end on yet another bulldozing run from prop Siteri Rasolea, the Player of the Match, and earned a penalty under the posts.

In keeping with the spirit of the way the Fijiana had approached the game, scrumhalf Lavena Cavuru tapped the ball and fed No 8 Naisewa, who launched herself over the line through the despairing tackles of an exhausted defence.

Grouped with European heavyweights England and France, the two teams were always going to struggle to get into the knockout stages, even as one of the two third-placed sides who will progress to the quarterfinals.

There was no stinting in effort from either side in the final match of the second weekend

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