

SUSPECTED BABY KILLER INFURIATES COMMUNITY

Levubu – Police rescued a 21-year old woman from Mutsha Tshirangadzi just as she was about to be physically assaulted by community members for allegedly killing her baby and attempting to conceal the incident.

The woman, who is being accused of killing her two-week old baby and then burying the body in a shallow grave, was arrested and appeared before the Vuwani Magistrates’ Court on Friday 6 March on a charge of murder.

Community members allegedly first saw the woman as she was taking her baby boy to the local clinic on 1 March.

Those who also spotted her without the baby over the next two days became suspicious after failing to get a glimpse of the little one on 3 March.

On the next day, a crowd of people confronted the woman and enquired about the whereabouts of the baby while threatening her.

Police, who were summoned to the scene, had to rescue the woman from the crowd before commencing with their investigations into the case of the missing baby.

Said police spokesperson brigadier Motlafela Mojapelo: “The woman initially told police that the child became sick and died on 2 March and that she threw its body into the local river.”

Efforts by personnel from the police search and rescue unit to locate the body in the river yielded no success.

However, investigations eventually led police to a spot where the body was found buried in a shallow grave.

“A case of murder has been opened and police investigations are continuing. The motive for this incident is unknown at this stage,” concluded Mojapelo.



ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADERS ARRESTED

Sun City – A joint operation with the National Council of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSPCA), the North West Department of Economic Development, Environments and Tourism (NW DEDECT), the South African Police Services (SAPS) stock theft unit, the North West Parks Board, and the Royal Bafokeng Reaction Force was carried out on Sunday, 8 March, to combat the illegal trade of wildlife along the R556 Sun City Road.

Four leopard tortoises were rescued and taken to the Johannesburg Wildlife Veterinarians for rehabilitation, and three suspects were arrested, two of whom have been caught previously for the same crime by the NSPCA on numerous occasions, these cases are currently on the court roll.

“These offenders need to feel the full might of the justice system as they continue to disregard the laws of South Africa and the sentence of these creatures – we believe that the only appropriate sentence is an extended prison sentence,” said NSPCAs Wildlife Protection Unit manager, senior inspector Douglas Wolhuter.

The NW DEDECT has reiterated that the purchase of wildlife at these sites is illegal and the department will be enforcing the law, not only on the sellers but also on

anyone caught purchasing these animals. The NSPCA applauds this action as this market only thrives when there is a demand. “The impact that this crime has is completely devastating, not only for the poached animals but for the entire wildlife population as well. This crime also involves innocent members of society – children are often used unknowingly to catch these animals and form part of this criminal activity; it is a crime that is destroying our natural heritage and society as a whole,” explained Wolhuter.

Wild animals belong in the wild.

Media statement by National Council of SPCAs



RESTORATION OF ORDER AT MANKWE CAMPUS



Mankwe – Order has been restored at Mankwe Campus after the protest action that was initiated by student representative committee (SRC) members was called off on Wednesday, 4 March. Senior management visited the campus together with representatives from the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) when they were approached by students who were frustrated and desperate to continue with their studies. After deliberations between students, management and SRC members, the gates to the campus were opened. Assistance to affected students to catch up with their academic backlog is currently a key priority. Campus management is in the process

of developing academic catch-up plans to help students to meet academic demands they face after having lost out on a considerable amount of teaching and learning time. The non-attendance of classes due to the strike will not affect bursary beneficiaries to receive their allowances and tuition fees. With the campus being operational, students must attend classes as the 80% class attendance remains a factor in determining receipt of the monthly allowance from NSFAS. With the campus in operation, proper attention will now also be given to the maintenance of Campus infrastructure as a matter of priority for the safety and wellbeing of enrolled students.

The matter relating to the academic exclusion of the former SRC president has not been resolved and is still pending the enrolment processes of the college.

ORBIT TVET College press release dated 10 March 2020.

HOW TO CHANGE A CAR TYRE

Rustenburg – Knowing how to change a car tyre is a basic skill that every driver must have. Follow these steps, it's as easy as one, two, three!

- 1. Find a safe spot:** Pull as far off to the side of the road as you can and if you are on a highway, try to exit onto a less busy road. Whatever you do, never try to change a tyre in the middle of the road!
- 2. Apply the parking brake:** If you have a standard transmission, put your vehicle in first or reverse. if you drive an automatic put the car into 'Park'.
- 3. Grab the Spare:** Get your spare from wherever it might be now. For most cars and SUVs, it'll be under the loading floor. Trucks might keep it suspended under the bed, but there will most likely be a centre nut holding it in place you'll have to screw off to free it regardless of its location.
- 4. Jack the car up:** Once you break the lug nuts' resistance, it's time to jack the car up. Place the car jack under the vehicle alongside the tyre in need of replacing. Every car has multiple jacking points that support the jack so be sure to find those points. This will avoid the risk of damaging your vehicle. Jack the car until the tyre is about 15cm above the ground.
- 5. Remove the jack:** Unwind the jack slowly until the new wheel takes the weight of the car and then remove it. With the wheel brace horizontal to the ground, use the weight of your body to tighten all the wheel nuts.
- 6. Clean Up and Drive Home:** Gather up all the tools you've been using plus your flat tyre and secure them in the trunk. Wipe your hands off a bit to avoid smearing tar and dirt all over your interior.

TLM LIGHTS UP NORTHAM ONCE AGAIN

Northam - It was with great delight to Northam residents, when TLM finally repaired a large amount of the streetlights in various suburbs of Northam on Friday 6 March and Monday 9 March.

The Northam Rate Payers Association

(NRPA) complained for two years as the community did not feel safe and crime was at its peak.

“We are so grateful and delighted, that most of the streetlights are finally fixed. It makes us feel safer,” said Northam community

member Joseph Themba, in an interview with *Platinum Bushvelder*.

NRPA chairperson David Gouveiea said; “We appreciate the new acting satellite manager, Johannes Matlou for his effort and persistence in making Northam a better place”.



TLM assistant electrician Frank Monyeki busy changing the globes on the streetlights.



From left: Welcome Makhendlana, Johannes Tladi and Jimmy Mogale.