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ELECTRICITY CUTS CRIPPLING LOCAL BUSINESSES

Thabazimbi – Heads may roll... (if you're following the Eskom vs President Cyril Ramaphosa's battle), but is that enough to save our local economy?

"Eskom is really killing us," President Ramaphosa said earlier this week. Small businesses are supposed to create 90% of the jobs in 2030... but how to do so in 'light' of the 'current' situation?

We spoke to local business owners Henry Mdhuli and Hetta Nortier to hear what they have to say.

See page 2.



Henry Mdhuli, owner of Nhlane Engineering



Hetta Nortier, owner of His & Hers Hairstylists

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Update on baby Ulrich

Thabazimbi – In the *Platinum Bushvelder* issue of Friday 23 September, we shared the harrowing story of how dad DC van Eeden and Marchell van Eeden’s medical knowledge was put to the test with the birth of their son Ulrich.

Marchell was 24 weeks pregnant and because it was a healthy pregnancy, they decided to go on vacation before baby Ulrich’s arrival, expected in November (at that time). In the early hours of the morning on 17 August, Marchell went into labour. They contacted their doctor and he advised that they get to a hospital as soon as possible. However, the nearest hospital was Mseleni Provincial Hospital, about 40 kilometres away.

They were on the road for about 6 kilometres when Marchell calmly asked DC to stop the vehicle, because she just gave birth to their baby boy.

Little Ulrich weighed only 595 grams and was 26cm tall and his chances of survival was not looking good, but he proved that he was a fighter and even though he has had several medical setbacks, he continues to amaze! He is still at Netcare The Bay Hospital in Richards Bay, but he is getting stronger every day.

On 26 September, Ulrich’s heartrate measured 25bpm and his oxygen levels were improving. He currently weighs 880g and is receiving 19ml milk, every three hours.

He started breathing on his own and they plan to take him off the ventilator any day now. Although he was diagnosed with an inguinal hernia, doctors are positive that it will either heal with time or that it can be repaired with a small surgery.

Ulrich’s brain scans also came back with positive results. There are a few white spots here and there, but there are no signs so far of any bleeding on the brain. More tests and scans still have to be done as his brain is still growing.

DC and Marchell would like to thank the community for all their support and prayers for their son.



Ulrich van Eeden is getting stronger by the day!

Electricity cuts crippling local businesses

Thabazimbi – Heads may roll... (if you’re following the Eskom vs President Cyril Ramaphosa’s battle), but is that enough to save our local economy?

“Eskom is really killing us,” President Ramaphosa said earlier this week (26 September) at the Winnie Madikizela-Mandela birthday celebration. In the backdrop of excessive load shedding, Eskom applied for a 32% electricity hike.

On the first day of hearings on Eskom’s tariff application to the National Energy Regulator of SA (Nersa) on Monday 19 September, Eskom’s chief financial officer Calib Cassim said that even if Eskom is relieved of R200 billion in debt, the company will soon be back in the same position if it doesn’t significantly raise tariffs, cut costs, and get people and municipalities to pay their bills.

Eskom is asking for a 32% increase for 2023/24.

“Loadshedding and rolling blackouts are cold comfort to many South Africans, especially small businesses which are supposed to create 90% of the jobs in 2030,” said John Dlodlu, SBI CEO.

But let’s hear from our local businessowners...

“We don’t only have to deal with national loadshedding schedules, we also have to deal with unplanned local power cuts,” says Hetta Nortier, owner of His & Hers Hairstylists, in an interview with *Platinum Bushvelder*.

“It’s really taking its toll on our wallets as we fight to keep our doors open. I run a salon

and I don’t have the finances to purchase a generator. The nail technicians are using their power banks to power their nail ovens. The room where we wax and tint, is pitch black (during the day when the electricity is off), so I can’t do that either. This is extremely frustrating as a business owner, and I can’t afford to keep on losing money like this. How can one pay rent if this continues?” Nortier asked in desperation.

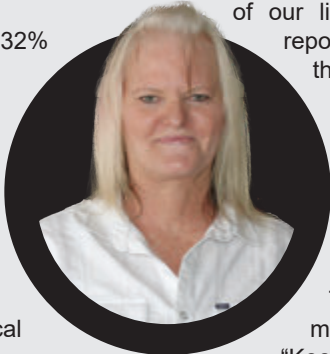
We also spoke to Nhlane Engineering owner Henry Mhluli. “We need electricity to use our equipment – especially when drilling or grinding. I don’t have a generator, but at the moment I am losing thousands of rands daily and it affects my business negatively. My operation cannot run without electricity. It’s impossible.”

Electricity outages influence every sphere of our lives. Mediclinic Thabazimbi reports that despite the outages, they operate as per usual – but at a huge cost.

“The power outages do not affect hospital procedures, as we run on solar panels. When the power goes out, we also run on two generators,” said Mediclinic Thabazimbi hospital manager Martjie du Preez.

“Keeping the generators going is a major unplanned expense – and much more expensive than electricity bills,” Du Preez added.

If you also want to comment on how the electricity outages and loadshedding are affecting you, please email news@platinumbushvelder.co.za (when you have electricity!).



Truck hijacking on the increase

SA – In a press release issued by Mike Bolhuis, Specialist Investigators into Serious Violent & Serious Economic Crimes, it reads: ‘During the first quarter of 2022, figures declared by the SAPS showed that truck hijackings increased by a staggering 31.4%’.

Circumstances are ripe for truck hijackings to increase even more. Economic instability, the increasing price of fuel, and many other factors increase drivers’ risk extraordinarily.

According to Mike, there are six main methods that truck hijack syndicates use in SA:

- 1) Fake ‘stop and go’ setups**
Hijackers erect fictitious barricades and use police officer clothing. As the trap seems authentic, the driver complies, causing the truck to come to a complete stop. The hijackers then forcefully remove the driver from the automobile before stealing the vehicle and its contents.
- 2) Vehicle sabotage**
The hijacker will tamper with the truck’s equipment, such as the brake lights, tyres, or vehicle sensors. In this manner, it will be simple for the hijackers to seize control of the truck because when the driver notices a problem, the driver will automatically stop to investigate it.
- 3) ‘Broken down car’ scams**
Hijackers will often pose as innocent victims of a car fault or breakdown and try to flag down a passing truck for help. When the truck driver pulls over to lend a hand, the hijackers will subdue the driver and make off with the vehicle and cargo.
- 4) Forced stop tactics**
This occurs when a group of hijackers tries to stop a truck in motion by either using a vehicle or a number of vehicles to push

the truck off the road or by having a car rush in front of the truck and then slam on its brakes. The truck’s driver will attempt to prevent a collision by coming to a complete stop or deviating from the road, allowing the hijackers to flank the truck and eject the driver.

- 5) Diversion tactics**
This is when a group of hijackers purposefully block a road with obstacles or debris, requiring the driver to stop completely or to reroute. Another technique involves the hijackers pretending to be a window cleaner, hawker, or beggar when the truck is stopped at an intersection before drawing a firearm. They will intimidate the truck driver or smash the window once they are close enough to grab and yank them from the cab.
- 6) Hitch-hiking schemes**
The hijacker will pose as a hitchhiker wanting a lift and will try to flag down a passing truck for a lift. However, once they have gotten into the truck, they will proceed to subdue the driver by means of force, usually by holding them at gunpoint and directing them to the predetermined destination. This is where the official theft can occur – out of sight and with total control.

Mike Bolhuis, Specialist Investigators into Serious Violent & Serious Economic Crimes, September 2022 press release extracts





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**Prayer for Relief from Adversaries
To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. To
bring to remembrance.**

70 Make haste, O God, to deliver me!
Make haste to help me, O Lord!
2 Let them be ashamed and confounded
Who seek my life;
Let them be turned back and confused
Who desire my hurt.
3 Let them be turned back because of their shame,
Who say, "Aha, aha!"
4 Let all those who seek You rejoice
and be glad in You;
And let those who love Your
salvation say continually,
"Let God be magnified!"
5 But I am poor and needy;
Make haste to me, O God!
You are my help and my
deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay.

NEW KING JAMES VERSION (NKJV)



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THABAZIMBI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AMENDMENT OF THABAZIMBI LAND USE SCHEME, 2014 TO BE KNOWN AS AMENDMENT SCHEME 086

We, Jeconitta M and Son (Pty) Ltd duly represented by Jeconitta Mogano, being the authorized agent of the owner of Erf Erf 1708 Northam Extension 6 hereby give notice in terms of Section 16(1) of the Thabazimbi Land Use Management By-Law, 2015, read together with the relevant provisions of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act 16 of 2013) and Regulations as promulgated that I have applied to the Thabazimbi Municipality for the amendment of the Thabazimbi Land Use Scheme, 2014, by the rezoning of the above-mentioned property, from “Residential 1” to “Residential 4” for the purpose of a Residential Building lodged simultaneously with Relaxation of Building Lines in terms of Clause 26 of the Thabazimbi Land Use Scheme, 2014 read with the relevant provisions of the By-Law mentioned herein. Particulars of the application will lie for inspection during normal office hours at the office of the Manager: Planning and Economic Development, Thabazimbi Municipality, 7 Rietbok Street, Thabazimbi **for a period of 30 days from 23 September 2022**. Objections to or representations in respect of the application must be lodged with or made in writing to the Manager: Planning and Economic Development, Thabazimbi Municipality, at the above mentioned address or at Private Bag X530, Thabazimbi, 0380 **within a period of 30 days from 23 September 2022**. **Address of Agent: Jeconitta M and Son (Pty) Ltd, P O Box 1061, Mokopane, 0600. Tel: 067 001 1650.**

THABAZIMBI PLAASLIKE MUNISIPALITEIT WYSIGING VAN DIE GRONDGEBRUIKSKEMA VAN THABAZIMBI, 2014 OM TE KENNIS AS WYSIGINGSSKEMA 086

Ons, Jeconitta M en Son (Edms.) Bpk, behoorlik verteenwoordig deur Jeconitta Mogano, as diegemagtigde agent van die eienaar van Erf 1708 Northam Uitbreiding 6, gee hiermee kennis ingevolge Artikel 16 (1) van die Thabazimbi Verordening op Grondgebruikbestuur, 2015, saam met die relevante bepalings van die Wet op Ruimtelike Beplanning en Grondgebruik, 2013 (Wet 16 van 2013) en Regulasies soos afgekondig, gelees dat ek by die Thabazimbi Munisipaliteit aansoek gedoen het vir die wysiging van die Thabazimbi Grondgebruikskema, 2014, deur die hersenering van bogenoemde eiendom, van “Residensieel 1” na “Residensieel 4” vir die doel van ‘n Residensieële Gebou wat gelyktydig met Ontspanning van Boulyne ingedien word ingevolge Klousule 26 van die Thabazimbi Grondgebruikskema, 2014 saam met die betrokke bepalings van die verordening hierin genoem. Besonderhede van die aansoek lê ter insae gedurende gewone kantoorure by die kantoor van die Bestuurder: Beplanning en Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling, Thabazimbi Munisipaliteit, Rietbokstraat 7, Thabazimbi **vir ‘n tydperk van 30 dae vanaf 23 September 2022**. Besware teen of vertoë t.o.v. die aansoek moet binne ‘n tydperk van 30 dae vanaf 23 September 2022 by die Bestuurder: **Beplanning en Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling, Thabazimbi Munisipaliteit, by bogenoemde adres of by Private Bag X530, Thabazimbi, 0380 ingedien word. Agent: Jeconitta M and Son (Edms.) Bpk., Posbus 1061, Mokopane, 0600. Tel: 067 001 1650.**

VACANCY

KMC Mining has the following vacancy available:

EARTHMOVING DIESEL MECHANICS X 1 (Amandelbult)

ESSENTIAL MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Grade 12 certificate
- Be a Qualified Earthmoving Diesel Mechanic (RED SEAL Certificate)
- Minimum of 5 years' experience on KOMATSU FEL MACHINES (ESSENTIAL)
- Must also have experience working on, Excavators, ADT's and other earth moving equipment & tools
- Be willing to work shifts
- Must be medically fit for work
- 3 – 5 years solid working experience
- Contactable references
- Knowledge of tools and lubrication processes
- Have a valid, unendorsed driver's licence
- Must be prepared to move from site to site with his team
- Must have strong auto-electrical and mechanical background
- Able to work in a fast paced and dynamic environment
- Able to work independently and in a team environment
- Must be medically fit in terms of the Mine Health and Safety Act and the Company standards for medical fitness
- Fully medically fit to perform work on mines in terms of the Occupational Health & Safety Act

Candidates who are available immediately and who meet the minimum essential requirements & based within the Local Municipalities will be considered.

Duties & Responsibilities:
The successful candidate/s will be responsible for:

- Assisting with general duties assigned by Site Manager.
- Perform first line maintenance tasks on loaders, dumpers, excavators etc.
- Perform first line of breakdown repairs on earthmoving vehicles, plant and equipment
- Develop, modify, construct and install related equipment required for the safe operation of all engineering equipment
- Diagnosis, troubleshooting, fault-finding and repair, and participation in HIRA

Package & Remuneration - To be discussed at interview

Closing Date: 14th October 2022

Email: info@kmcmining.org



VACANCY

KMC Mining has the following vacancy available:

Accountant

Qualification Requirements:

- BCom Accounting/Financial Management Degree

Experience Required:

- 5-10 year's experience

Duties and responsibilities:

- Full financial function up to trial balance
- Processing of group financial Records
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- Preparation of budgets
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- Maintenance and balancing company accounts
- Recon of month end GL accounts

If you have not heard from us within two weeks, please deem your application as unsuccessful. Package & Remuneration – To be discussed at interview

Closing Date: 14th October 2022

Email CV to: info@kmcmining.org



VACANCIES

THUMBS UP TO KUMBA!

[Letter to the editor]

Thabazimbi – On Monday 26 September, the general manager of Kumba, Paul Fouche and his team cut the grass and cleaned up the entrances of Kwaggasvlakte and Spitskop. They cleared up about two kilometers and I would like to thank Kumba, on behalf of all the residents of Spitskop. We all appreciate the time, effort, manpower and machines used to do this. Thank you also to the Spitskop community policing forum (CPF) for controlling the traffic flow while the work was in progress. Grateful Spitskop resident



Kumba Iron Ore was commended for cutting the grass near the entrances of Kwaggasvlakte and Spitskop.

MAKARAPA CITY

SEASON 8

Local gangster, shot protecting Dennis Nkosi in a hijacking, discharged with amnesia...

...And in other news, Makarapa City shows its commitment to decarbonisation with the upcoming launch of nuGen™, its prototype hydrogen-powered mine haul truck.

What are you doing here, Monica?

I thought I'd pop in to see how you're doing. Howzit going?

Ag, trying to keep busy. Doing my best.

You're my favourite local hero, Sporo!

Wow!

Look at this garden of yours!

Call me Sporo Green Fingers. The primary school has borrowed me a plot. I want to grow my veggie business to support my family financially.

Great idea! Have you thought about contacting Zimele?

Who's that?

Zimele is the mine's enterprise development programme.

Isn't it only for miners?

No, it's for the whole community.

Zimele creates economic opportunities for everyone. Loretta was a Zimele beneficiary, and so is Sis Fifi. You can be too.

You think Zimele can help me start a small nyana business?

Yes, it all starts with the first step. If you start your own business, you could grow it to employ other people from the community. That's how we shape a better future.

You really think I can start my own business?

There's only one way to find out. Take that first step and contact the Zimele hub.

Hah! "Businessman Sporo" - what a thought.

Dennis takes Sporo for a drive...

Thanks for the outing, D-Man. Dolly is driving me crazy.

And Pam won't stop calling me. Eish, it's her again...

Easy on that phone, D-Man. Safety first.

You're right. I've got a lot on my mind.

How's about I drive you? I need a side hustle while I work on my Zimele proposal.

Deal!

Scan here for more information



For more information on business skills development, mentorship and business funding, email zimele@angloamerican.com



Do you know someone in your community who is doing their part to shape a better future for those around them?

Send us their inspiring stories to *134*8955#

It could be featured on our interactive show on Wednesdays between 1pm and 5pm. USSDs are free.



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Northam Rhinos is reg vir die Sevens

Setaria – Die Klerksdorp Sevens Toernooi is een van die grootste sosiale sportgeleenthede in die land. Dit is twee dae van intense, aksiebelaaide wedstryde.

Spanne van regoor Suid Afrika neem deel en dis nie net vir rugby entoesiaste nie, maar sluit verskeie ander sportsoorte soos netbal, hokkie, fiksheid uitdagings en selfs rolbal in.

Met 134 wedstryde wat gespeel word, kan jy verseker weet die kompetisie gaan nie maklik wees nie. Gelukkig is die Northam Rhinos se horings goed geslyp en die manne is reg vir aksie. Die Northam Rhinos sal op 30 September Klerksdorp toe reis om aan die toernooi deel te neem.



HFM krieket slaan nog ‘n wen raak!

Thabazimbi – Hoërskool Frikkie Meyer (HFM) se eerste krieketspan het skoonskip gemaak van hul opponente op Saterdag 24 September. Die span het teen Hoërskool Pietersburg op die Amandelbult krieketbane te staan gekom en het hul wedstryd met sewe paaltjies gewen. Hoërskool Pietersburg het eerste gekolf en het 160 lopies gemaak. Vir HFM neem Vian Horn 4/34 terwyl Jaco Coetzee en De Wet van der Walt elkeen twee paaltjies neem.

Tydens HFM se kolfbeurt staan spankaptein HJ Janse van Rensburg uit met 90 lopies van 75 balle en De Wet van der Walt maak 38 lopies. HFM maak die lopies in die 34ste beurt wat hul wen verseker.



HFM se eerste krieketspan.



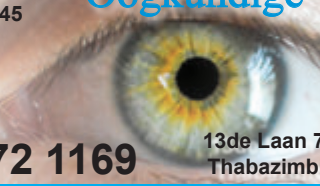
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YOUR FRIDAY FUN FACT

Did you know?

Aviation pioneers Wilbur and Orville Wright's first flight with a powered, sustained, and controlled airplane took place in 1903. Because their father feared losing both sons in an airplane accident, they promised that they will never fly together. There was only one exception on 25 May 1910 when they took a six-minute flight together.

Have your say / Sê jou sê

Do you or can you consider home schooling for your children?

No one cares about your children as much as you do, which makes home schooling an attractive option. On the other hand, teachers at schools are trained and qualified professionals and children can benefit from socialising with their peers. Which is better?... home schooling or traditional schools? And if you say home schooling – is that a real and practical option?



No. Children need to evolve both socially and educationally and with home schooling, they will lack the growth in their social development.

Siphoseto Gajase



No, a child needs to develop more than just their educational traits. They learn about bullying, about caring, kindness, how to play and get along with other children of their age.

Melize Potgieter

PUBLIC POLL: THE RESULTS ARE IN!

Do you or can you consider home schooling for your children?	NO 98%	YES 2%
--	---------------	---------------

POLL

Do you take care of your mental health?

Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. When we are stressed, anxious, or feeling down... it's important to take a step back, breath or talk to someone. Do you take care of your mental health or just brush it off as a difficult day and try again tomorrow?

Make yourself heard by sending an email to news@platinumbushvelder.co.za or a WhatsApp to 081 579 7000 with the following information before 17:00 on Tuesday 4 October:

- Yes, I take care of my mental health.
- No, I don't take care of my mental health.
- The reason for your answer.
- A recent photo of yourself – that we can publish with your answer.
- Your contact details.

The results of the votes will be published in our next issue.

PS – You can also give your opinion by commenting on our Facebook post.

