

Thabazimbi • Northam • Moruleng • Setaria • Swartklip • Amandelbult | T: 014 777 1003 | F: 011 252 6669 | 59 Van Der Bijl Street, Thabazimbi

Thabazimbi: 072 482 6871 | 081 309 3876 • Northam: 073 429 9411 | 076 811 5989

ads2@platinumbushvelder.co.za | news@platinumbushvelder.co.za

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A WAKE-UP CALL

FOR COMMUNITY VIGILANCE IN COMBATTING STOCK THEFT



Thabazimbi – In a call for justice and community vigilance, the Thabazimbi Magistrates' Court has handed down a five-year jail sentence on 11 December 2023 to Arno Kotze, a former farm manager, for his involvement in a calculated stock theft operation.

This sentence is not just a punishment but also serves as a stark reminder of the threat of stock theft that looms over the agricultural community, particularly in areas like Thabazimbi, where the economy is deeply intertwined with livestock and game.

Kotze, 52, orchestrated the theft of 13 Bonsmara cattle valued at R130,000 from Belgie Farm in Dwaalboom between 1 and 7 June 2022. His scheme unravelled thanks to the vigilance of a farm employee and the prompt action of the farm owner who alerted the authorities, leading to Kotze's arrest.

Despite his initial release on bail, Kotze's evasion of the law was short-lived, with his re-arrest in Groot Marico, North West, marking the beginning of the end of his criminal activities.

However, the battle against stock theft is not solely the responsibility of law enforcement. It is a community-wide endeavour that requires the active participation and collaboration of every stakeholder, especially the farming community. The emergence of safety and community WhatsApp groups is a positive stride towards creating a network of vigilant eyes and ears, ready to report and respond to any suspicious activities. This collective vigilance is crucial, as the transportation of livestock, especially under the cover of night, often signals foul play.

Moreover, the economic implications of stock theft extend beyond the immediate losses incurred by farmers. In regions like Thabazimbi, where tourism is intricately linked to the agricultural landscape, crimes like stock theft and other destructive acts can have far-reaching consequences. The devastating fires of 2023 did not all have natural causes. These fires severely affected the local game and tourism industry. It shows how criminal activities can ripple through the local economy, affecting lives and livelihoods.

Regular security checks and thorough background investigations of employees are not just recommended but necessary. The accessibility of criminal record checks at local police stations and PostNet outlets nationwide provides a practical and effective means to ensure the integrity and trustworthiness of individuals entrusted with the care and management of valuable agricultural assets.

The sentencing of Arno Kotze is not just a closure of a criminal case; it is a call for unity, vigilance, and proactive measures to protect the agricultural heritage and economic stability of our community.



Buffel Beton

Thabazimbi kantoor
083 296 2916
thaba@buffelbeton.co.za

Koedoeskop Kantoor
083 343 0781
buffelbeton@thabanet.co.za
Posbus 245 | Koedoeskop 0361

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As ma of pa nie ‘n borg is nie, kry seun nie ‘n plek in die span nie

[skrywe aan die redakteur]

Thabazimbi – My seun, ‘n ywerige en talentvolle rugbyspeler, is onlangs oorgesien vir die spankeuse, ‘n besluit wat my en hom diep ontstel het. Die plaaslike skoolrugby-span se seleksieproses laat my twee keer dink... Ten spyte van sy merkwaardige fiksheid en toewyding, is my seun nie gekies na slegs twee oefensessies nie, sonder dat regverdige en deeglike proewe plaasgevind het. Dit is kommerwekkend dat die seleksie blykbaar beïnvloed word deur ekonomiese faktore eerder

as werklike meriete. Dit is algemeen bekend dat diegene met ‘finansieel bevooroordeelde’ ouers ‘n voorkeur geniet in die keuringsproses. Ek is ‘n ywerige ondersteuner van alle sportaktiwiteite in ons dorp, maar my beursie het dit nie te breed nie en laat my nie toe om ‘n borg vir die span te wees nie. Die idee dat ‘n gebrek aan ekonomiese bydrae ‘n speler se kanse op insluiting in die span kan benadeel, is nie net onregverdig nie, maar dit staan ook in stryd met die ware gees van sportmanskap.



Ek glo vas dat elke speler, ongeag hul agtergrond, ‘n gelyke kans verdien om op hul meriete beoordeel te word. My seun sal hieruit leer om nog harder te werk vir sy doelwitte, maar dit is ‘n les wat hy nie behoort te leer as gevolg van onbillike praktyke nie. Ek hoop dat hierdie brief die nodige aandag sal trek en tot ‘n meer regverdige en deursigtige seleksieproses sal lei.

#PlatsakPappa

In remembrance



Ons onthou met liefde wyle Sarel Gilbert (60), oorlede op 24 Desember 2023. Die troosdiens het op Dinsdag 9 Januarie 2024 om 11:00 plaasgevind vanuit die NHK Northam. Vir meer navrae, skakel Cobus op 081 379 8919 of Wilna op 074 200 2687 by Econo Begrafnisdienste – ‘n diens met liefde en waardigheid deur Econo Begrafnis en Verassingdienste.

Placing an obituary

Announcing the death of a family member is a time-honoured tradition as life should be celebrated and never forgotten. To help you to celebrate the life of your loved one and share details about the upcoming funeral, place an obituary in our newspaper, free of charge. You can include the date of death, details about their life and surviving family members. You can also write a special message, a poem or a prayer. Please include a photo and the date, time and place of the memorial service.

If you would like to place an obituary in *Platinum Weekly / Platinum Bushvelder*, send the information via WhatsApp to 072 482 6871 or email [news@platinumweekly.co.za/](mailto:news@platinumweekly.co.za) news@platinumbushvelder.co.za.

PICK n PAY LIGHTENS BACK TO SCHOOL LOAD FOR CUSTOMERS WITH OVER R1 MILLION TOWARDS SCHOOL FEES AND STATIONERY

Pick n Pay seeks to ease the financial burden on many families by contributing R1.1 million towards school fees and Back to School stationery items.

The retailer is stepping forward to support families, recognising many parents’ financial strains, particularly after a tough year and the traditionally challenging month of ‘JanuWorry.’

“We are committed to making a meaningful positive impact on the lives of our customers in 2024, acknowledging the many challenges that the past year has presented to individuals and families. Through this latest initiative, we are providing customers with relief on the obligatory Back to School costs many are faced

with this month,” says Andrew Mills, Chief Marketing Officer at Pick n Pay. Through its Smart Shopper programme, the retailer will refund up to R600 000 worth of stationery purchased at QualiSave stores onto customers’ loyalty cards and reward up to 10 Pick n Pay customers with R50,000 each towards school fees. Pick n Pay School Club will also ensure around two million learners are given access to additional physical education materials through its annual delivery of CAPS-aligned, grade-specific educational content to over 2,600 schools. This content is also made available online at schoolclub.co.za for free download. The Club will also donate 34,000 pencil bags to Grade 4 learners and do stationery giveaways with partners.

“As we start a new year, we are even more committed to supporting our community in real, meaningful ways, and we believe that by investing in education, Pick n Pay is investing in the future of the beautiful people of South Africa,” concludes Mills.

To qualify to win, Pick n Pay QualiSave customers must buy five or more advertised Back to School stationery items and Pick n Pay customers must spend over R250 on Back to School items advertised in the respective leaflets before 28 January 2024. Pick n Pay customers will also be rewarded with spot prizes, including Ster Kinekor tickets, Spur vouchers and Lego sets, during January. In addition, orders placed on Mr D and Pick n Pay asap! with a linked Smart Shopper card will qualify for the Pick n Pay school fee competition.



IN THE HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA
(LIMPOPO DIVISION, POLOKWANE)

CASE NO: 8838/2022
BEFORE THE HONOURABLE: JUDGE NAUDE – ODENDAAL | On the 18th day of APRIL 2023
In the matter between: BEEFCOR (PTY) LTD | APPLICANT | (REGISTRATION No.: 1973/015057/07) And THABAZIMBI KOELKAMERS (PTY) LTD | RESPONDENT | (REGISTRATION NO.: 2016/392376/07) | Having considered the documents filed of record and having heard counsel for the Applicant: **IT IS ORDERED THAT:** -

1. The Respondent is placed in provisional winding-up in the hands of the Master.
2. A rule nisi issued calling upon the Respondent and any other interested party to appear in court on **23 January 2023** to show cause why the Respondent should not be placed under final winding-up.
3. The order be served forthwith on the Respondent at its registered office and published, once in the Government Gazette and once in the daily newspaper circulating around the Respondent’s registered address.
4. The Respondent to pay the costs of the application on an attorney and client scale

BY ORDER OF THIS COURT

Public protection at your service

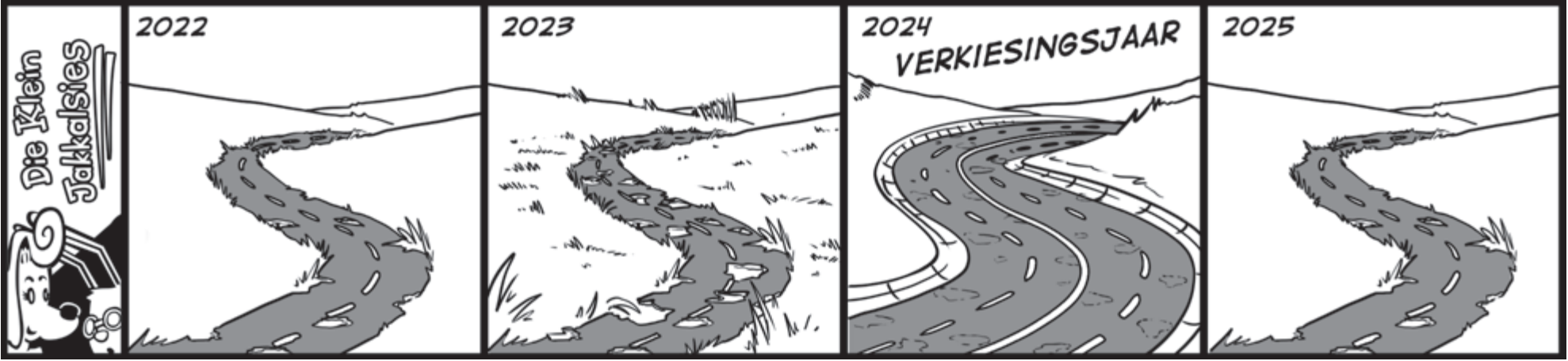
Thabazimbi – In times of distress or if you sense danger lurking around, remember that your safety is a priority for Public Protection Services (PPS) Thabazimbi. This dedicated team is committed to ensuring the wellbeing of the residents of Thabazimbi, vigilantly covering sectors 1 through 6. PPS Thabazimbi is more than just a service; it’s your reliable neighbour, ready to assist when you feel threatened, whether it’s a break-in or any situation that compromises your safety. The team’s prompt and efficient response makes it the town’s trusted protector. In need of immediate assistance? Reach out to our dependable team members:
• Petrus van Breda at 079 897 5611
• Christopher Booysen at 083 897 8431
• Chandre Pereira at 071 874 1114



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Laerskool Thabazimbi se toekomstige leiers blink uit by leierskamp



Voor van links: Hendru Gerber, CW Frohlich, Juan Trüter, Jaco Lategan, Cobus Vosloo, Dandries Verster, Rudo Rheeders, Zian van Dyk, Jannik Blaauw, Nico Botha, MJ Snyman, Unarine Bele, en Bertus Els. Agter van links: Mia-Miné du Plessis, Lenie Steenkamp, Anushke Jacobs, Lienke Minnaar, Layla van Eyssen, Silke Blaauw, Deanette Benade, Femke Smit, Janessa de Sousa, Liané Thuynsma, Amoré van Niekerk, Elané Alberts, en Chanté Petzer.

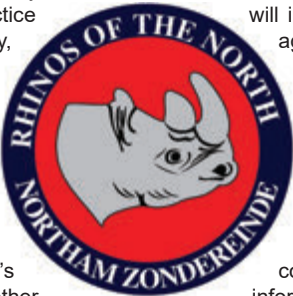
Thabazimbi – In ‘n opwindende naweek van persoonlike groei en spanbou, het Laerskool Thabazimbi se jong leiers deelgeneem aan ‘n inspirerende leierskapskamp. Die kamp, wat van Vrydag, 12 Januarie tot Sondag, 14 Januarie 2024 gestrek het, het by Fraaibos naby Brits plaasgevind. Dit het ‘n platform gebied vir die skool se Graad 7-leerders, almal voornemende leiers, om hul leierskapsvaardighede te slyp en te verfyn. ‘n Groep van 24 talentvolle leerders het aan hierdie eksklusiewe kamp deelgeneem. Die kamp

het ‘n uitgelese geleentheid gebied vir hierdie jong leiers om nie net hul leierskapsvaardighede te ontwikkel nie, maar ook om lewenslange vriendskappe te bou en waardevolle herinneringe te skep. Die program was noukeurig ontwerp om ‘n balans tussen leer en pret te verseker. Dit het ‘n verskeidenheid aktiwiteite ingesluit wat ontwerp is om spanwerk, probleemoplossing, en kommunikasievaardighede aan te moedig. Die leerders het deelgeneem aan werkswinkels, spanbou-uitdagings en leierskapsessies.

Die terugvoer van die leerders was oorweldigend positief. Hulle het berig dat hulle nie net waardevolle leierskapslesse geleer het nie, maar ook die geleentheid om hulself te ontdek en hul eie potensiaal te erken, waardeur het. Dit was ‘n “lekker tyd” wat nie net as ‘n voorbereiding vir die nuwe skooljaar gedien het nie, maar ook as ‘n fondament vir hul toekomstige leierskapsrolle in die samelewing. Laerskool Thabazimbi is trots op hierdie jong leiers en wens hulle alles van die beste toe vir die komende skooljaar.

Northam Rhinos ready to charge into the new season!

Setaria – The Northam Platinum Rhinos Rugby Club has officially kicked off their 2024 season with the start of practice sessions. **Practice sessions open to all** The club has announced their regular practice days, inviting the community to participate. “We hold our practice sessions every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at the Bushveld Park in Setaria,” explains Flip de Kock, the chairperson of the Northam Platinum Rhinos Rugby Club. “Sessions start at 17:30 up to 19:00. We warmly welcome everyone who’s interested in rugby, whether



they’re experienced players or new to the sport.” **Upcoming rugby trials and friendly match** In a significant event leading up to the new season, the Rhinos are set to host their rugby trials on Saturday 27 January 2024. These trials will include a much-anticipated friendly match against the formidable Tuks rugby team. “This friendly match is not just a trial but also a great opportunity for our players to showcase their skills and for the community to enjoy a day of quality rugby,” adds de Kock. The Northam Rhinos, known for their spirited play and community involvement, are looking forward to a season of growth, competition, and sportsmanship. For more information, contact Flip on 076 791 4659.

Rugba nuus

UITSLAE Vrydag 12 Januarie - Newcastle Falcons 18-57 Benetton - Ospreys 25-3 USA Perpignan Saterdag 13 Januarie - ASM Clermont 38-17 Scarlets - Sharks 38-7 Oyonnax - Zebre 20-17 Dragons - Castres Olympique 28-6 Black Lion - Edinburgh 20-21 Gloucester - Montpellier	Sondag 14 Januarie - Cheetahs 20-33 Section Paloise BEPALINGS Vrydag 19 Januarie - Gloucester 22:00 Castres - Olympique 22:00 Scarlets Saterdag 20 Januarie - Black Lion 15:00 ASM - Clermont 15:00 Section Paloise - Zebre 15:00	Sondag 14 Januarie - Oyonnax 17:15 Cheetahs - Benetton 17:15 Montpellier - Herault Sondag 21 Januarie - Lions 15:00 Ospreys - USA Perpignan 15:00 Newcastle - Falcons 19:30 Dragons - Sharks
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UITSLAE Vrydag 12 Januarie - Northampton Saints 61-14 Aviron Bayonnais Saterdag 13 Januarie - Lyon OU 34-20 Connacht - Exeter Chiefs 19-17 Glasgow Warriors - Toulon 18-20 Munster - Bristol Bears 17-31 Bulls - Stormers 31-24 Sale Sharks - Leinster 43-7 Stade Français - Cardiff 15-54 Harlequins - Ulster 24-48 Stade Toulousain Sondag 14 Januarie - Union	Saterdag 13 Januarie - Bordeaux-Begles 55-15 Saracens - La Rochelle 45-12 Leicester Tigers - Bath 29-25 Racing 92 BEPALINGS Vrydag 19 Januarie - Glasgow Warriors 22:00 Toulon - Connacht 22:00 Bristol Bears Saterdag 20 Januarie - Harlequins 15:00 Ulster - Bulls 15:00 Union - Bordeaux-Begles 17:15 Cardiff - Leicester Tigers 17:15 Leinster - Stade	Sondag 14 Januarie - Francais 19:30 Stormers - Munster 19:30 Northampton Saints - Saracens 22:00 Lyon OU Sondag 21 Januarie - Sale Sharks 15:00 La Rochelle - Stade Toulousain 17:15 Bath - Aviron Bayonnais 19:30 Exeter Chiefs
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