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Mayor address **Crime**



Newly elected Mayor of the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, Cllr. Louis Diremelo

Barsebha – The newly elected Mayor of the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, Cllr. Louis Diremelo, visited the Basebha Village near Bethane on Thursday, 2nd May 2011.

The reason for his visit was 74-year-old Jane Tshidi (female), who found both her home in ashes on Sunday after receiving a call from a neighbour.

Apparently Jane's house burnt down after it was burgled by an unknown number of suspect(s).

Upon receiving the information concerning Tshidi's predicament, honourable Cllr. Diremelo took it upon himself to lend a hand where he can. A plan of action was put together and on Monday community members will stand together and refurbish Tshidi's house.

Father & Son die in Plane Crash

Rustenburg – Wally Brink and his son George died tragically on Saturday morning (28 May 2011), when their Cessna 182 crashed on a farm in the Koster area. The accident took place at approximately 11h00, the second day of the Brinks partaking in an annual air race. The Cessna burst into flames on impact and was totally destroyed, debris scattered over a wide area. It is assumed that the Brinks died on impact. It was a sad day for the PTAR (President's Trophy Air Race) when they lost two of their most ardent supporters.

The 2011 President's Trophy Air Race was hosted by the Beauchamp-Proctor Flying Club at Mafikeng International Airport from 26 to 28 May 2011. The total distance covered in this specific race is around 676 nautical miles. As crew of Race 5 Wally Brink served as navigator and his son George was piloted the aircraft. On the day of the accident the SACAA dispatched a team of Accident Investigators who went to the scene of the accident to start the process of gathering data that would help in establishing the cause of the accident.

2 Protesters shot dead



Swartruggens – Three people were shot by members of the SAPS during a protest on Monday during which two died and another was hospitalised, Public Safety spokesperson Lesiba Kgwele said (30 June 2011).

The Tlokweng village (Swartruggens), resembled a war zone on Tuesday. Angry community members sought to lynch a local Tavernier over a spate of "Muti" murders in the area.

Residents also protested against perceived police inability to solve cases in the area, demanding the expulsion of the provincial police commissioner. The rioting was triggered by the murder of 25-year-old Thabiso Moloj, whose decomposed body was recently found. According to locals, he is the tenth person in the area found dead after disappearing or reported missing.

During the protest, a tavern and a police minibus were set alight. Police tried to disperse protesters with rubber bullets and allegedly also live ammunition, resulting in the death of Dimakatso Kaswane and an unidentified man.

By Wednesday afternoon the situation was returning to normal but an underlying tense atmosphere loomed in the air. The burning tyres and road blockades put up by the community were removed by then. "Police are monitoring the situation, which is expected to remain tense until after the funeral at the weekend," Kgwele said. On Wednesday, North West Premier Thandi Modise stepped in to calm a potentially explosive protest march. She addressed more than 400 people, who demanded that the tavern owner be

handed over to them. When Modise arrived she was welcomed by protesters carrying placards, some reading, "F. the police, they are useless" and "We voted for you to kill us".

The premier responded that the government would not be an accessory to mob justice. On the death of Dimakatso and an unnamed youth, Modise said that the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD) confiscated guns from all the police involved in the incident for ballistic tests to establish who fired the fatal shots. This remark was met with much applause.

Modise has also set up a committee elected by the community to work with the police to nab the suspected ritual murderers. She also promised to raise the complaints about the police with the Minister of Police, Nathi Mthethwa.

It is not clear why the community has linked the tavern owner to the murders, but the anger against him was further heightened by allegations that police were seen drinking beer at his establishment.

Residents pleaded with Modise to hand the suspect over to them so that they could "deal with him", to which she replied: "We are here to help you and the affected family see justice being done in the end."