

Pipe dreams built on debt?

Trade union Solidarity on 21 February expressed its discontent at the budget speech delivered in the National Assembly. According to Gerhard van Onselen, economics researcher at the Solidarity Research Institute, the 2018 budget would put a further damper on economic growth. "There is no apparent deviation from the harmful ANC policy we have had to face for so many years. In fact, higher VAT and a higher fuel levy together with no real sign of a cut in government spending, in reality

put the economy on a weaker footing," Van Onselen said. Van Onselen contends that taxpayers and consumers will have to bear the heavy burden of ANC policy. Van Onselen furthermore said that all the optimism about the curbing of government spending that followed Pres Ramaphosa's State of the Nation Address was misplaced. "It appears that this budget is a continuation of the pipe dreams built on debt," Van Onselen added. Government has proposed a one

percentage point increase in the value-added tax (VAT) rate to 15%. The increase was widely anticipated in tax circles as it is arguably the most effective way of raising significant amounts of additional revenue. National Treasury expects the hike, which will take effect on 1 April 2018, to raise the lion's share (R22.9 billion) of the R36 billion in additional taxes it hopes to collect in 2018/19 to stabilise the country's fiscal situation. **Solidarity press release: 21 February 2018**



Highveld birds in Koster

Rustenburg – BirdLife Rustenburg's February outing will be held on Saturday, 24 February. They will be concentrating on Highveld birds in the Koster area and their target bird for this outing is the Blue Crane. They will meet at the BP Garage, Waterfall Mall, at 06h00 and will return home by 14h00. Bring along the usual drinks, snacks etc. All are welcome to what should be a very productive outing. A donation of R20 is

levied for non members. Take note: some of the roads may be a little rough and a vehicle with high ground clearance is advisable. Should you wish to learn more about, participate in any of these events or if you have any birding topics to report or need help with identification of a bird (a picture will help), please feel free to contact BirdLife Rustenburg's chairperson Shaun McGillewie, on 083-702 1462.



Green Winged Pytilia

Father still in custody FOR RAPE



Rustenburg – The biological parents of an 8-year old girl have appeared before the Rustenburg Magistrates' Court on Friday, 16 February. The 34-year old father and 25-year old mother are charged with rape and the production and distribution of pornographic material of the child. The father remain in custody awaiting a formal

bail application to be held on Friday, 23 February. The child has been placed in a place of safety. The mother was released on bail. "We are tremendously saddened by cases such as these. An innocent child who should be protected is harmed by her own parents in unimaginable ways. The investigation is ongoing," said captain Elsabé Agoustides.

PUBLIC NOTICE COUNCIL MEETING MADIBENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Notice is hereby given, in terms of section 19 (b) of the Local government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act No 32 of 2000), that an ordinary meeting of the Municipal Council of the Madibeng Local Municipality is scheduled as follows:

Date: Tuesday, 27 February 2018
Time: 10:00
Venue: Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Brits

This serves as invitation to attend the said meeting

For further information regarding the Council meeting, please contact the office of the Speaker of Council at (012) 318 9316 or (012) 318 9460

Civic Centre,
53 Van Velden Street,
Brits

MM Maluleka, Municipal Manager, Notice No: 13/2018, Reference No: 3/3/7

"Madibeng, the Prosperous Platinum and Green Tourism City"
 Madibeng Local Municipality 1  @madibenglocalmu  Madibeng Local Municipality

Notice: CPF executive elections

Rustenburg – You are cordially invited to Rustenburg's Community Police Forum (CPF) executive elections. All CPF sub-forums should please bring their nomination forms along. **Date: 7 March**
Time: 18h00
Venue: Agape Church, near the Waterfall Mall, in Cuckoo avenue
For additional information, contact Tinnie Bosman on 083-625 3556 or lieutenant colonel Sebele on 082-416 2275, or sergeant Motepe on

014-590 4185. Rustenburg needs strong leadership to fight against crime in partnership with the police.





Weather Report North West Rustenburg

Day	Date	Month	Year	Temp
Friday	23	February	2018	25°C - 17°C
Saturday	24	February	2018	24°C - 18°C
Sunday	25	February	2018	26°C - 15°C
Monday	26	February	2018	26°C - 16°C
Tuesday	27	February	2018	26°C - 17°C

At time of print

FINANCIAL INDICATORS

Crude Oil	[OIL]	R	760.98
Gold Ounces	[XAU]	R	15 611.96
Platinum Ounces	[XPT]	R	11 712.88
Palladium Ounces	[XPD]	R	12 059.32
United States Dollar	[USD]	R	11.74
British Pound	[GBP]	R	16.34
Euro	[EUR]	R	14.49
Chinese Yen	[CNY]	R	1.85
Namibian Dollar	[NAD]	R	1.00
Lesotho Loti	[LSL]	R	1.00

At time of print

SUDOKU

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