

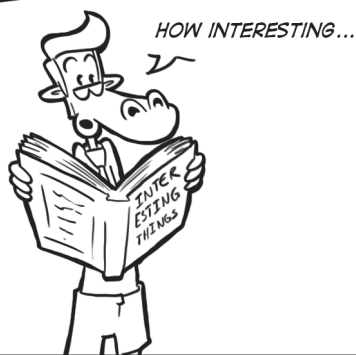


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COPPER CABLE THIEVES RAN OUT OF LUCK

Rustenburg – Two copper cable thieves' luck ran out when the two vehicles in which they were transporting their loot were involved in an accident near the Dr Moroka drive turn-off on Wednesday morning 4 July. One of the vehicles overturned due to the overload spilling dozens of rolls of copper wires along the grass border between the N4 and Dr Moroka turn-off.

Police spokesperson captain Elsabe Augoustides said that one of the drivers of the vehicles was injured and transported to a local hospital, while the other fled the scene. "The suspect was arrested for copper cable theft to an estimated street value of R140 000,00," captain Augoustides said.

Both vehicles were impounded by the police and an investigation into the matter including the search for the second suspect continues.



SERIAL RAPIST SENTENCED

Rustenburg – A serial rapist's spree finally came to an end when the Bafokeng Regional Court sentenced him on Friday 6 July to two life imprisonment sentences and an additional 206 years behind bars.

Ayabonga Ndai's crimes ranged from attempted rape, rape, house robbery, business robbery, armed robbery and burglary and were committed between August 2010 and July 2013 in the policing areas of Rustenburg and Boitekong.

"In one of the incidents, the accused was sentenced to life and 15 years' imprisonment after he robbed and raped a 38-year old woman

in Photosaneng outside Rustenburg in 2012. It was reported during the court proceedings that the victim was walking alone to work in the early hours of the morning when the accused confronted and threatened her with a knife. The accused robbed her of her cell phone and cash before taking her to one of the yards in the village where he repeatedly raped her," said police spokesperson captain Aafje Botma. Ayabonga's modus operandi was to monitor and target certain dwellings, where men often left their spouses alone to go to work. He would then force entry into those houses and rape the women before robbing them.

Missing man PRESUMABLY DROWNED



Police divers searching for the missing man in the Bospoort dam.

Rustenburg – Mystery surrounds the disappearance of a 23-year old male. He went missing at the Bospoortdam where he was fishing on Saturday 23 June. A friend reported him missing to the police. He witnessed his friend disappearing under the water but was unable to find him. "Police divers and rescue personnel were summoned to the scene, but to no avail," said police spokesperson sergeant Ofentse Mokgadi.



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61,8% INCREASE FOR RLM COUNCILLORS IT'S OFFICIAL

Rustenburg – The hotly debated 61,8% increase for Rustenburg Local Municipality (RLM) councillors will be implemented effectively this new financial year, mayor Mpho Khunou has confirmed in an interview with *Platinum Weekly* on Monday 9 July. Explaining the large increase to *Platinum Weekly*, mayor Mpho Khunou said the amount was based on a ministerial determination called 'the upper limits' done by the minister of cooperative governance. "The salary increase of councillors is an issue that we must always remember - is legislated and is based on an act of parliament, which empowers the minister to review the remuneration of councillors," mayor

Khunou said. The reason for the double-digit increase was also as a result of the 2016 community survey. "The determination is based on two findings: our revenue and population. It placed the Rustenburg council, not the municipality, on level 6 grading which meant the increase should have been affected two years ago. We could not previously afford the increase, but we are now prepared for it," mayor Khunou said. Asked whether the increase was justifiable against the outcry from various sources, mayor Khunou said the outcry was warranted and it is understood, but that the increase is a result of the grading of the council to level 6.



The RLM will go ahead and implement the 61,8% increase for councillors in this financial year, mayor Mpho Khunou told *Platinum Weekly* on Monday 9 July.

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