



Fake 'cop' farm murderer was arrested before...



Hoopstad – It has recently come to light that the deceased suspect who took part in the farm murder of Janus Powell, had previously been arrested for impersonating a police officer to commit crimes.

Janus, a farm manager at Rietvlei Farm near Hoopstad, was brutally murdered on Saturday 20 April. According to Freestate police spokesperson colonel Thandi Mbambo, five suspects arrived on the farm at approximately 18:30 in a blue Toyota Camry.

One of the suspects was fully clothed in Police uniform and the other wore a police reflector jacket. Their vehicle was fitted with a blue light. The suspects introduced themselves as police officers and claimed that they were looking for a person who had skipped bail.

Janus and his family were having a braai when the owner of the farm phoned him to open the gates for the 'fake cops' to leave.

"The suspects continued their ruse by acting as cops. Their 'search' turned up empty, and he accompanied them to the gate, to see them off," colonel Thandi said. At this stage, it is unknown what transpired at the gate, but the Hoopstad Police were informed of a shooting incident at Rietvlei farm. When the police arrived, they discovered the body of one of the suspects and that of the late Janus Powell on scene. Both died due to gunshot wounds.

"James's private firearm is missing. The other four suspects fled the scene and a manhunt has been launched," added colonel Mbambo.

If you have any information regarding the farm murder, please contact detective sergeant Lawrence Mojanaga of Hoopstad detective services on 083 334 0684.

We extend our sincerest condolences to Janus's wife, Anemi, their 4-year old son and Janus's parents, Antoon and Tharina. Janus grew up in Brits and attended Hoërskool Wagpos.

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COUPLE BURIES WRONG BABY

Rustenburg – The North West Department of Health is still investigating the circumstances that led to a couple burying the wrong baby, following a mix-up of infant bodies at Job Shimankana Tabane (JST) hospital in Rustenburg.

It was discovered that the remains of Brenda and David's new-born baby was missing when the couple was taken to the JST mortuary on 13 April 2018 to say their final goodbyes.

According to media reports this past week, Brenda and David Kgaje have called on the department to assist them in exhuming, what they believe to be the remains of their baby, who was mistakenly buried by another couple over a year ago.

Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) tests that were carried out proved that the remains of that deceased baby belonged to a woman who lives in Luka. The Kgaje family is still waiting for the remains of their baby to be exhumed so that they can give their child a proper burial.

In an interview with *Platinum Weekly*, spokesperson of the Department of Health Tebogolo Lekgethwane said: "This is an isolated case. We are reviewing the process to check whether there are any loopholes in the system. The concerned families had undergone counselling."



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1,800 trapped mineworkers safely surfaced



Rustenburg – Rustenburg came to a halt on Tuesday, 30 April, when reports of over 1,800 mineworkers, trapped underground, started spreading like wildfire.

At about 13:00 on Tuesday, some rails which were being transported underground at the Thembelani shaft, Rustenburg (whilst being slung under the conveyance), came loose and fell down the shaft.

Shaft personnel had to conduct an inspection to determine

if there has been any structural damage to the shaft, to be able to release 1,800 employees from underground. There have been no serious injuries reported and all employees are safe.

Sibanye-Stillwater is pleased to advise that all underground employees at its Thembelani shaft have been safely hoisted from the 14th level after a shaft inspection confirmed that it was safe to do so.