

MATRIC FAREWELL ENDS TRAGIC

Rustenburg – A matric farewell dance at Ananda Lodge near Rustenburg turned to tragedy when a learner from Lethabong High School drowned in a swimming pool on Saturday 21 September.

Celebrations by learners from the Pretoria-based high school were called to a halt at around 19:00 when Tlhalefang Mahumapelo drowned.

Police spokesperson captain Elsabé Augoustides said: “While they were swimming, two of his (Tlhalegang’s) classmates noticed that he was struggling in the water and rushed to his aid. He was pulled from the water. Paramedics were summoned but declared him dead soon after they arrived.”

The Department of Education in Gauteng, spokesperson Steve Mabona said the incident is a shock to MEC Panyaza Lesufi and everyone else at the department. “It is unfortunate when as a department we have to divert from conferring Grade 12 certificates and focus on facilitating the process of death certificates,” he added.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Tlhalefang.

SMOKE BAD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

[Letter to the editor]

Rustenburg – I was recently driving past Rustenburg Kloof when I saw a cloud of smoke coming from their premises. This is not the first time that I have seen the smoke, presumably burning rubbish or waste. However, the colour of the smoke is an indication that plastics are being burnt. September is Arbour Month; it is shocking to see that some people just don’t care about nature.

Platinum Weekly contacted Rustenburg Kloof for their comment; however, at the time of going to print, they had not yet responded.

A concerned community member



Smoke coming from Rustenburg Kloof.

5,270 JOB LOSSES AT MARIKANA

Marikana – Sibanye-Stillwater entered into a section 189 consultation with stakeholders at its Marikana operation and associated services, as reported in a release on 25 September 2019.

This is pursuant to ongoing financial losses experienced at these operations with certain shafts having reached the end of their economic reserve lives. The restructuring will result in the rationalisation of overheads and the realisation of other synergies and efficiencies required to restore profitability and ensure the sustainability of the remaining shafts at the Marikana operations.

Approximately 5,270 jobs (~3,904 employees and ~1,366 contractors) are expected to be lost due to the restructuring. As a result of an improved PGM commodity price environment the amount of job reductions is significantly less than previously communicated by Lonmin in 2017, with inter-alia, a plan to access sustainable reserves with enhanced crew efficiencies at the 4Belt

(4B) shaft complex, which was scheduled for closure, retaining approximately 2,700 employees and contractors.

Between 2017 and September 2019 the workforce at Lonmin reduced by approximately 5,944 employees (including contractors), from 32,512 to 26,568.

Neal Froneman, chief executive officer of Sibanye-Stillwater, commented: “The proposed restructuring is contemplated to ensure the sustainability of the Marikana operation. Overall, the outcome will be a more sustainable business which is able to secure employment for the majority of the Marikana workforce for a much longer period.”

Since listing in 2013, Sibanye-Stillwater has, through steady growth, expanded its role in the South African mining industry. The Group currently employs over 88,000 people in South Africa, compared to 37,700 employees six years ago, and is one of the largest employers in the South African mining industry.”

Sibanye-Stillwater, release extracts, 25 September 2019



NOTICE FOR CONSULTATION FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ON THE FARM DE KAMEELKUIL 130 JP IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MANKWE, SITUATED IN MOSES KOTANE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE.

DMR REF N.O: NW30/5/1/1 /2/12627 PR

Notice is given in terms of section 16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), in terms of Regulation 39 - 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations published in Government Notice R 982 of 08 December 2014, under Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) as amended, that Ithate Afrika applied for a Prospecting Right for Chrome Ore, Copper Ore, Nickel, and Vanadium on the Farm De kameelkuil 130 JP, The project trigger Listing Notice 1 (Government Notice 327, in Government Gazette 40772 of April 2017).

In order to participate in this process, or to obtain further information, please contact **Mabirimisa Consulting and Projects**, Mr Mabirimisa S.E. **Address: flat no 103, Campbell Court building, Klerksdorp 2570. Cell phone number: 082 752 1754. Fax Number: 086 557 9215. E-mail: shumaniedmond@gmail.com.** Draft BAR & EMPr will be released for 30 days’ comments period from 27 September 2019.

SUSPECTED MURDER MASTERMIND KOOS STRYDOM – FOUND DEAD

Mooi-nooi – Koos Strydom, the alleged ‘master mind’ behind the murder of Joey and Anisha van Niekerk, was reported dead by national media on Friday 20 September.

It was reported that Koos was found unconscious in his cell and was transported to hospital where he was declared braindead. Various attempts by *Platinum Weekly* to contact correctional services for information were unsuccessful.

Koos, together with four other suspects accused of murdering Joey and Anisha van Niekerk were on trial in August. During the three-week trial, various witnesses and experts testified about the events that transpired leading up to the murder of the two women.

Initially, eight individuals were arrested in connection with the case but three have since turned state witnesses. One state witness, Wilhelm Loubser, died in a motorcycle accident on 3 November 2018. The murdered couple went missing on 10 December 2017 after leaving their home in Mooi-nooi to make arrangements for Joey’s father’s funeral. They were kidnapped, raped and killed, their bodies soaked in acid and burned beyond recognition. The burned-out shell of their vehicle was found on 16 December 2017 in the Magaliesburg area.

The case was placed on the roll to continue in November this year.



Joey and Anisha van Niekerk

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