

TLHABANE BURGLAR BUSTED

Tlhabane – The long arm of the law finally caught up with a suspect linked to several house robberies in Tlhabane. He was arrested on Thursday 21 November. A court order was obtained to search the man's premises. During the search, police found various suspected stolen items and a key to a Hyundai motor vehicle that the suspect could not account for. According to police spokesperson sergeant Ofentse Mokgadi, it was later established that the key belonged to another vehicle that was stolen during a house robbery earlier in October. The suspect was arrested for the possession of stolen goods.



From left: sergeant Lesego Ntsiman, Tlhabane Police station commander colonel David Moagi and Captain Boi Mafoko.

100 RHINO HORNS FOUND

NW – Five suspects were arrested for the illegal possession of firearms and ammunition on Tuesday 26 November after the police swooped down on two farms located in Klerksdorp and Hartbeesfontein. Two of the suspects were busted with 100 rhino horns and US dollars estimated to be worth R45,900. "An unspecified number of empty cartridges, ammunition and a tiger skin were also seized during the raid," said police spokesperson brigadier Sabata Mokgwabone.



HAWKS SHUT DOWN DAGGA-LAB

NW – The Hawks' Serious Organised Crime Investigation unit and members of the Hartebeespoortdam K9-unit shut down a hydroponic dagga-lab in Assen on Friday 22 November. According to police spokesperson captain Tlangelani Rikhotso, a search warrant was executed wherein a fully-fledged dagga cultivation green house was discovered. More than 20 bags containing processed dagga were found in an air-conditioned room. Additional stashed bags of processed dagga were found in the house and some in the ceiling. Three suspects were arrested. The trio appeared before the Brits Magistrates' Court on 25 November, facing charges of cultivating and dealing in dagga.



The hydroponic dagga lab contained 148 dagga plants.

FARM ROBBERY 2 IN COURT

NW – Two men accused of illegally entering a farmhouse in Zeerust before robbing the owner of cellphones and an unspecified amount of cash are appearing before the Bafokeng Magistrates' Court for the possession of suspected stolen property and the illegal possession of drugs. The suspects were both arrested on Sunday 24 November after police linked them to the house robbery incident. Police spokesperson captain Aafje Botma said initial investigations suggest that the two stabbed a 42-year old foreman before robbing him of his cash. "After assaulting and robbing the foreman, the suspects allegedly ransacked the farmhouse and ultimately fled with a Toyota Hilux bakkie, cellular phones and cash," she said. "After the incident had been reported, investigations led the police to a house in Tlhabane West near Rustenburg where the stolen bakkie was found parked outside. As a result, the the suspects were arrested," she added. The two made their second court appearance on Thursday 28 November. Investigations continue.

DEALING IN STOLEN CAR PARTS

Rustenburg – On Friday 22 November, eight suspects appeared before the Rustenburg Magistrates' Court on charges of possession of suspected stolen motor vehicles, possession of suspected stolen motor vehicle parts and being in the country illegally. After receiving a tip-off from community members, the Boitekong Police swiftly responded to Sunrise View where the vehicle parts were being loaded onto a truck. The premises was searched, and a stolen black Mazda was recovered, and subsequently linked to a case of theft in Vanderbijlpark. According to police spokesperson colonel Adèle Myburgh, parts of a VW Golf 5, for which the suspects had no reasonable explanation were found in the house. A Toyota Hatsu and a Langley truck that were found on the premises, were impounded.



The suspects were busy loading car parts onto a truck when the police pounced.



ROYAL BAFOKENG NATION

KGOTHAKGOTHE

Kgosi Leruo Molotlegi invites all members of the Bafokeng Community, who are 18 years and older to the Bafokeng General Meeting (Kgothakgothe) at which RBN's Audited Financial Report will be presented.

The meeting is scheduled as follows:

Date: Saturday, 30 November 2019

Time: 10:00

Venue: Bafokeng Civic Centre

Arrangements have been made to transport community members to and from the meeting. Busses will start picking up from 08:00 in the morning, from the usual bus stops. For more information, please contact: Minah Huma at (014) 566-1200.

KIDNAPPING CASES SKYROCKET WITH 139%

SA – A stark reality... 16 people are being kidnapped or abducted in South Africa daily. This represents an alarming increase in abduction crimes when compared to figures recorded by the police during previous years. Although the kidnappings have been more concentrated in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal, there is a significant increase nationally from 2009 to 2019. This points to a bleak statistic which has been described as 'out of control' by some of the county's top investigators. According to the statistics, a total of 2,492 kidnapping cases were reported in South Africa between 2009 and 2010. The statistics reveal an increase with 5,693 cases being reported between 2018 and 2019. In Limpopo, 243 kidnappings were reported for 2018/2019, presenting a decrease from 300 recorded in 2017/2018. In Rustenburg, 29 kidnappings were reported between 2018 and 2019, representing an increase of 20.8%. Overall, the statistics show that kidnapping skyrocketed in South Africa by 139% in the last decade. The police and organisations such as Pink Ladies had to double their efforts in an attempt to curb this crime wave. While in the past criminals used to target wealthy individuals, they have broadened their scope of victims and now prey on lower-income families as well as teenagers and children. There also appears to be a well-defined pattern of opportunistic abductions in which the criminals demand quick ransom payments, usually through e-wallets. Mike Bolhuis, a renowned private investigator, told news channel ENCA that in an effort to evade being detected, located and arrested, abductors have lately been demanding small amounts of money to ensure faster transactions. To report a kidnapping or abduction, contact the police on 014 777 3500 (Thabazimbi SAPS), 014 576 9100 (Rustenburg SAPS) or 086 001 011. You can also visit Pink Ladies on their website www.pinkladies.org.za or email admin@pinkladies.org.za, operationspinkladies@gmail.com or missing@pinkladies.org.za. You can also contact them via WhatsApp on 072-214 7439 or SMS on 072-214 7439.

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