

DURING AN EMERGENCY, GET OUT OF THE WAY!

[Letter to the editor]



Rustenburg – One of my family members had an emergency on Sunday 2 February as criminals were trying to break into their house during the night. She immediately called the armed response to come and assist and we followed right on their heels. I was shocked to see the spiteful, dangerous and negligent driving of the other road users when we rushed to get to her in time. Even though the armed response's hazards were on, the other motorists refused to let them pass. Do you also do this when other emergency services try to pass? What if it was one of your family members that were

in danger? I don't think they realise that their spiteful nature can mean the difference between life and death. While I am fully aware that some people misuse the power of the flashing lights to skip traffic, it is better to be safe than sorry. If you see any ambulances, fire trucks, police or armed response vehicles with flashing lights, do the right thing and move out of the way. A few seconds of courteous driving might just save a life.

A concerned motorist

FOUR IN COURT OVER STOLEN FURNITURE

Mooiooi/ Rustenburg – Four suspects aged 30 to 57 years were arrested on Thursday 30 January after they were found in possession of suspected stolen furniture and household items. The suspects were nabbed at Mamba informal settlement near Mooiooi by the police's National Intervention Unit (NIU) who acted on a tip-off from community members. Evidence gathered by the police suggests the chairs, fridges and other household items were stolen last year from a furniture shop warehouse situated in Marikana. "The items found in their possession are worth more than R40,000," said police spokesperson sergeant Ofentse Mokgadi. The suspects, who have been charged with possession of suspected stolen goods and burglary at the business, appeared before the Brits Magistrates' Court on 3 February. Further investigations into the case are underway.



The goods were recovered near Mooiooi.



The furniture was allegedly stolen last year.

AutoCity

SPARES AND BODY PARTS

Stripping For Spares

VOLKSWAGEN KOMBI

NISSAN HARBDY

TOYOTA RUNX

VOLVO SEDAN

AUTO BODY PARTS BY TIM

QUANTUM 2014 FUNNY FACE
HEADLAMP: R550 | GRILL: R800 |
BONNET: R900 | BUMPER: R500

TOYOTA TAZZ 2000
HEADLAMP AND CORNER
LAMP COMBO: R1100 | BUMPER: R380
BONNET: R1350 | GRILL: R195

VW POLO VIVO 2010
FRONT BUMPER: R450 | CRADLE: R800 |
GRILL: R300 | HEADLAMP: R990

ALL FRONT BUMPERS

QUANTUM 2014: R500
TOYOTA TAZZ 200: R350
POLO 6 2010: R550

VW GOLF VELOCITY: R380
FORD RANGER T6: R550
FORD FIGO 2010: R680

BAKWENA FESTIVE SEASON FATALITIES

South Africa – Bakwena Platinum Corridor Concessionaire (Pty) Ltd (Bakwena), who manage the N1 N4 toll route reported an overall increase of fatal crashes along its route from December 2019 to the middle of January 2020. A total of 16 fatalities were recorded in December 2019 with nine recorded between 1 and 15 January 2020. This despite the increase in visibility of law enforcement along the route, which included roadblocks where vehicles were checked for roadworthiness, overloading as well as drivers being tested for alcohol abuse. Bakwena continues to partner with Motus Corporation and Hyundai South Africa which saw an additional six patrol vehicles being added to the route to assist with visible policing, crash assistance as well as motorist assistance. Bakwena also works very closely with traffic authorities from Tshwane Metro Police, Limpopo, Gauteng and the North West provincial traffic authorities to reduce crashes and fatalities. Bakwena spokesperson, Solomon Kganyago, said this increase can be attributed to several factors such as weather conditions, driver fatigue, reckless driving and not obeying the rules of the road. Multiple fatalities occurred from two crashes, one where a

motorist overtook on a double solid white line which resulted in five fatalities and the second crash where a vehicle went across the median and collided with a truck head on, which resulted in six fatalities. Bakwena implements additional measures over the festive season to assist motorists to plan their journeys and avoid travelling during the peak periods. Various campaigns are rolled out ahead and during the festive period which are aimed at improving driver behaviour. The *Secure-A-Kid* campaign is carried out in partnership with Wheel Well, a non-profit organisation that focuses on children in road safety. The *Control of Speed* is another campaign along the route, which is aimed at encouraging drivers to stick to the speed limit and abide by the rules of the road. Kganyago said: "We are deeply saddened by the fatalities that took place along their route and will continue with their efforts to strive for zero fatalities. We thank the local authorities, the Department of Transport, maintenance contractors as well as other stakeholders for their ongoing efforts in striving to reduce incidents and fatalities on our country's roads. We urge motorists to abide by the rules of the road at all times to arrive at their destination safely."

Bakwena Platinum Corridor Concessionaire (Pty) Ltd press release, 28 January 2020



Driver fatigue and recklessness were some of the factors contributing to more fatalities during the festive season.

SETTING A HIGH STANDARD IN CRIME FIGHTING

Rustenburg – Rustenburg station commander, brigadier Gertrude Modise, has shown that women are very capable of leading the fight against crime and making communities safer. Under her leadership, Rustenburg Police Station has been recognised as the best police station in the North West province for 2019. In an interview with *Platinum Weekly*, Modise could not hide her excitement while speaking about the achievements of the police station. "We won the accolade during the South African Police Service (SAPS) provincial Excellence Service Awards on Tuesday 12 December. We are very proud because the awards ceremony is very significant on the police calendar," Modise said. During the awards ceremony, held at the Sun City resort, Modise also walked away with the best provincial senior operational manager award. On 26 January she followed that effort up by clinching the runner up position in the same category during national Excellence Service Awards, which were held in Port Elizabeth. "My personal achievements are very humbling but the award we won as a station is more significant to me. We emerged as the best among all 82 police stations in the North West," she explained. Modise said Community Policing Forum (CPF)

members played a major role in assisting the police to bring down criminal activities during 2019. "The CPF executive committee was very effective and I hope our partnership with them will help us to keep winning more awards," she said. "Contact crimes such as murder, assault and robbery as well as property related crimes went down and we must maintain the high standard we have set," she concluded.



Rustenburg Police station commander, brigadier Gertrude Modise, with some of the accolades.

SPEAK OUT AGAINST ABUSE



Mooiooi/ Rustenburg – Femicide and intimate partner violence is real. With just a few days to go before we celebrate Valentine's Day, Grace Help Centre would like to alert women about the signs of an abusive relationship as well as offer advice on what course of action to take. Situated in Mooiooi, Grace Help Centre is committed to easing the predicament of gender-based violence by providing victims with shelter and an enabling environment to recover and put their lives back on track. If your spouse hits you or are verbally abusive, it is never your fault. You do not deserve it and it is not love. If he keeps you from seeing your friends or family and wants to control you, it is not love. Additionally, any behaviour that makes you feel nervous or places your well-being at risk is abuse. No amount of roses or promises of 'I will not do it again', are more precious than your life. For more information, contact Grace Help Centre on their Help Line on 072 348 6526.