

FALLEN CRIME FIGHTERS REMEMBERED

Pretoria – A sombre mood engulfed the Union Buildings on Sunday 1 September during a memorial held to honour 27 police officers who died in the line of duty between April 2018 and March 2019.

Deputy president David Mabuza, police minister general Bheki Cele and national police commissioner general Khehla Sitole were among the guests who joined families, colleagues and friends of the heroes and heroines who gave their lives to fight crime.

In his address, the deputy president said the death of the 26 officers and one reservist is a stark reminder

of the high levels of crime the country faces. “The maintenance of law and order is not only the function of the police whose members are killed while effecting arrests, responding to false complaints, at stop-and-search operations, in vehicle accidents, and by suspects resisting arrest,” he said.

He urged all citizens and communities to work together with the police and other law enforcement agencies to bring criminals to book.

“This,” he said, “is the best way to honour the memory of the deceased officers”.



Police officers salute their fallen colleagues.

DRUG SMUGGLING ATTEMPT FOILED

Rustenburg – A man was arrested on Monday 2 September after his attempt to smuggle drugs to a person awaiting trial was foiled by three correctional services personnel.

The incident occurred at Job Shimankane Tabane Hospital while the detainee was being escorted for a medical examination.

Advice Ramonnye, communications manager for the department of correctional services in Rustenburg, said: “One of the escorting officials noticed a member of the public trying to put drugs inside the man’s pocket. The suspect tried to run away when confronted but was apprehended with the assistance of a passer-by.”

The suspect was arrested by the police after a report about the incident was made. Police also confiscated three parcels of dagga, 20 sachets of nyaope (a street drug mixture of dagga and heroin), a cell phone and cash from the perpetrator.

Mamokete Mogorosi, department of correctional services area commissioner for Rustenburg, applauded the three personnel.



A man was caught trying to smuggle these drugs.



Confiscated drugs.

KEEP CALM AND DON'T SPREAD FAKE NEWS!

Rustenburg – There has been an alarming increase in fake news spreading like wildfire on social media recently. The result of these messages contributes to unnecessary panic.

In an interview with *Platinum Weekly*, SA Community Crime Watch (SACCW) chief operating officer (COO) and Metasec Security Solutions general manager, Morné Engelbrecht said: “People should think twice before sharing messages and voice notes if they are unsure about the source. Sometimes what people think they saw differs from what is really happening, and once these messages are being shared, sensation seekers tend to add fuel to the fire by adding their own perceptions, causing panic.”

The spread of panic could clearly be seen leading up to planned taxi-march in Rustenburg on 12 September.

“Voice notes were doing the rounds about violent protests that were being planned on 11 September and innocent job seekers were accused of being rioters just because they were walking together. If you see suspicious activity, make sure that you state exactly what you see not what you think you see,” Morné added.

It is also important that if you see anything suspect, you report it either to your local community watch or the police instead of posting it on social media or sharing it on various WhatsApp groups. “This way you can avoid confusion and unnecessary hysteria.”

The same goes for messages you receive in this manner. Valuable resources are being spent on propaganda and sometimes people ignore urgent notices because they are so used to others crying wolf.

However, if you do report an incident make sure that it contains the following information:

- Name and surname of the sender.
- The date that the incident occurred.
- The time that the incident occurred.
- The name of the town and place where the incident occurred.

By following these guidelines, it will be easier to determine the source and authentication of a message and avoid old messages resurfacing causing fear.

You can report or confirm any suspect activity in Rustenburg to the local community watches:

- SACCW– 079 689 0961
- Metasec Security Solutions – 082 878 1077
- Community Policing Forum (CPF) – 072 204 4847
- Rustenburg Crime Combating Forum (RCCF) – 074 327 3041
- AfriForum Buurtwag – 082 679 0718 / 071 270 0297
- Bojanala Crime Unit (BCU) – 081 795 9408 / 073 668 9318
- For incidents not relating to Rustenburg, you can contact the local police station.



Metasec Security Solutions, Rustenburg

FOR MORE INFO OR BOOKINGS CONTACT:
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SAVING LIVES

Hartbeespoort – At a time when the safety of women and girls is so important and grabbing media headlines across the country, we congratulate Fidelity ADT officer, Peter Mathavha, for his actions this month when he came to the rescue of a young girl in Hartbeespoort.

According to Fidelity ADT community development manager, Maurice Malan, the officer was on patrol when he heard a young girl's scream coming from a nearby bush. He immediately stopped to investigate and found three suspects busy overpowering the girl, attempting to rob her of her laptop and phone. The suspects fled when the officer approached.

Peter escorted the girl home safely.

Maurice said there are a number of different tactics for staying safe but some of the best were given recently by a SAPS officer on Facebook. We selected our favourite ones. These include:

- Tip from Tae Kwon Do: The elbow is the strongest point on your body. If you are close enough to use it, do!
- If a suspect asks for your wallet or purse, do not hand it to him, rather throw it away from you. The chances are that they are more interested in your wallet and/or purse than you, and will go for the wallet/purse. Try and escape as quickly as you can.
- If you are ever thrown into the trunk of a car, kick out the back taillights and stick your arm out the hole and start waving like crazy. The driver won't see you, but everybody else will. This has saved lives.
- Women have a tendency to get into their cars after shopping, eating, working, etc., and just sit and check phone messages etc.

Fidelity ADT press release extracts, 10 September



Fidelity ADT officer, Peter Mathavha, saved girl from three suspects.