

Police investigate kidnap and murder of Thuli Ngwenya

26/10/17 MAHIKENG, The police in Mahikeng are investigating a case of kidnapping and murder after the decomposed body of Thulisile Ngwenya (56) was found in the bushes near Lorweng village outside Mahikeng yesterday (Wednesday).

Ngwenya went missing over the weekend after she had reportedly told family members in Riviera Park that she was going to the bank. That was the last time she was seen alive.

The discovery of her remains was made by a shepherd. Police, where at that time following leads of a missing person opened for investigation after she was reported missing on Sunday, October 22.

According to police information, Ngwenya who was an Educator at Leleko Primary School outside Mahikeng, was last seen in the morning of Saturday, 21 October 2017 while going to one of the banks in Mahikeng. Her car a Mazda CX3 was found parked near Mahikeng long distance taxi-rank. The North West Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General

Batle Motswenyane condemned the incident and all acts of violence against women and children. She said that it cannot be normal when women and children are still kidnapped and killed.

She further said that the matter would get necessary attention to ensure that those who are responsible are brought to book.

The police urge members of the community to work together with them and to come forward with any information that may lead to arrest and prosecution of the suspect(s) by contacting the

Investigating Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Masandela on 072 174 4905

Enquiries : Captain Yvonne Mapoboza: 082 856 1613.



Thuli Ngwenya

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Three card skimming suspects remanded in custody

by police intelligence in partnership with Taung police station cluster.

The three were apprehended for alleged card skimming after intensive investigations.

They were followed by police intelligence while driving from Vryburg to Taung. Police stopped and searched their vehicle.

Law enforcement officials allegedly found loads of bank cards and confiscated the car the suspects were travelling in.

The court heard how the three robbed an unsuspecting victim of her hard-earned cash at an ATM in Pudiros location, near Taung before they went to Taung Mall.

Mokonyane was cross-examined and he said he had previous convictions for card skimming in the Free State and Vanderbijlpark in Gauteng.

Investigating officer WO Kagiso Phemelo is expected to take the stand to give more evidence on Monday.

The suspects were remanded in cus-

tody until Monday amid a formal bail application. The community of Taung packed the courtroom with placards saying "No bail for Them" and #Crime-MustStopInTaung.

Many card skimming victims came forward and positively identified some of the suspects as perpetrators. - News-note

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Teacher found slain in bush

HERDER STUMBLE ON BODY NEAR MAHIKENG AFTER FOUR-DAY SEARCH

ELFAS TORÉRAI

A TEACHER who went missing on Saturday morning was found murdered yesterday.

Her decomposing body was found in bushes near Lorwaneng village, just outside the Mahikeng CBD.

Thulisile Ngenweya, 66, went missing after she left her home to go to one of the local banks.

Her car, a Mazda CX 3, was found parked near the Mahikeng long distance taxi rank.

Police in Mahikeng said a shepherd stumbled upon the body in the bushes before alerting the police yesterday.

"Police in Mahikeng are investigating a case of murder and kidnapping," Capt Yvonne Maqoboza said.

"The discovery by a shepherd follows a missing person case that was opened for investigation after she was reported missing on Sunday."

Ngenweya was a teacher at Lekoto Primary School outside Mahikeng. Maqoboza said all that was found so far was the body with no other items on her.

"We will not divulge much at the moment save to say we have added a charge of murder and investigations are ongoing."

The police are of the view that Ngenweya's car seemed to have spent all of Saturday night near the taxi rank where it was found on Sunday morning.

"From the look of things, it appears the car could have been at the spot it was found for the entire time since the deceased parked it there but investigations are also ongoing on

that front," Maqoboza said. Ngenweya's daughter, Nozy Ngenweya, said the police had advised the family not to speak about the matter while investigations were ongoing.

"The police are doing their best, people can contact the police to alert them if they know anything. We don't know where they are searching," Ngenweya said.

A pamphlet detailing Ngenweya's disappearance stated that Ngenweya was last seen at the car wash near Nedbank and Shoprite on the intersection of Carrington and Hatchard streets. Her car was found at this location.

Social media users had also shared the pamphlet online to raise awareness. Some raised the suspicion that someone known to the deceased could have hatched the plan to kidnap her for financial gain.

Many have since said that crime in Mahikeng is gradually getting out of hand and that the police and all concerned have to do something as a matter of urgency.

While the country has large numbers of children who go missing on a daily basis, there has been a spike in the number of adults who disappear.

Missing Persons South Africa said more than 50 adults went missing in 2012 and the figure was more than 130 in 2014. Nearly 110 people were reported missing in 2015. Concerned public members have taken to social media to express their thoughts about Ngenweya's disappearance.

One tweet said: "Mahikeng is now turning into a dangerous place."

elfas@theneweng.co.za

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Have you seen this woman?

BY DULILE SOWAGA

NORTH West cops have joined the community in the search for a teacher who went missing on Saturday morning, shortly after going to a bank in Mahikeng.

Thulisile Ngenweya's picture has been circulated on several media platforms.

A community organisation, Crime Alert Mahikeng, posted a missing persons notice, saying the 66-year-old from Riviera Park in Mahikeng had been seen at a carwash near Nedbank and at a Shoprite store before she disappeared.

Thulisile is a teacher at Lekoto Primary School outside Mahikeng.

Captain Yvonne Maqoboza said Thulisile was reported missing on Sunday.

Her vehicle, a Mazda CX3, was found parked near a taxi rank in Mahikeng. It is not known if anything was stolen from her car.

"The police request anyone with information that might help them trace Ngenweya to call Mahikeng Police Station on 018 397 5013/5014 or investigating officer Lieutenant-Colonel Maqogandela on 072 174 4905," said Maqoboza.



Thulisile Ngenweya was last seen on Saturday.

Mbalula: criminals rights are protected

By MISHECK MAKORA

POLICE Minister Fikile Mbalula's yesterday took his "skop en donner" plan to win the war against crime a step further.

Noting that the justice system of the country protected criminals, Mbalula said cops should "break the law progressively" when dealing with thugs.

Mbalula was speaking at a breakfast meeting with stakeholders in Cape Town following Tuesday's release of the crime statistics.

Mbalula said he had already met Justice Minister Michael Masutha and other stakeholders to deal with the laws he claimed protected criminals.

"Criminals have rights. Their rights are guaranteed and protected in the Constitution."

He said when a person became involved in crime they should know that their rights would be compromised because they were stepping on the rights of others.

Mbalula added that the pri-

vate sector, especially cash-in-transit security companies, had to step up as well.

"Police have to guard money for grants for the elderly, not cash-in-transit vehicles.

"Security companies must explain to me why they are always incapacitated to deal with crime.

"They send out a car with R4 million with only two guys carrying pistols."

Nyanga CPF chairman Martin Makasi said the battle against crime would not be won while Mzansi has so many young people with nothing to do.

"Many of them really want to develop into productive citizens but they don't have the means to do so. We need a TVT college in Nyanga."

Gauteng CPF member Yoliswa Makasi said police were unable to respond to the needs of an ever-expanding population.

"There are too few cops to deal with too many crimes," he said.