With no security at the Fochville graveyard, vandals have stolen one of the last remaining caskets in the memorial wall and thrown out the ashes.

"I was driving back from Potchefstroom at around 19:30 on Saturday when I saw a fire in the graveyard," says Mr Jerry Molokele, an opposition party councillor.

As it was not safe for him to go there alone at night, Molokele went to check what had happened the next day.

He was shocked to find that whoever had lit the fire had also broken open the memorial wall. A piece of cement lay near a burnt patch they had left behind.

"I suspect they were nyaope boys. Why they would do something like this, no one knows," he said, shuddering at the thought that they may even have smoked the ashes.

The vandals seem to have had no shortage of money as empty bottles of expensive imported beer lay scattered at the site.

Molokele often goes there to visit his late wife’s grave and continually notes its deterioration.

“The problems started when someone stole the gates that were supposed to keep the criminals out. The municipality has just never replaced them,” he laments.

Another problem is that there is no visible security guard or municipal staff permanently employed at the graveyard.

“Some people are paid every month but are just never here. It looks like the municipality has abandoned the place,” says Molokele, pointing towards the skeleton of the ablution block.

Vandals have stolen the doors and every bit of metal they could find. They have even taken metal fittings from the memorial wall. Molokele believes it is only a matter of time before they target the graves.

On Tuesday, the Herald asked the Merafong City Local Municipality what it was doing to stop such theft and whether it had opened cases with the police.

“There are caretakers at the facility during the day and, yes, the municipality has opened cases for the crimes that have occurred,” a municipal spokesperson answered.
The Carletonville SPCA says some people still believe many myths surrounding pets, to the detriment of their animals.

According to the SPCA inspector, Mr. D.J. White, they often come across people with harmful beliefs that are just not true. One myth that leads to unwanted puppies is that a female dog should go through one season before being sterilised. The problem is that many bitches fall pregnant during their first heat. Puppies should be spayed at eight weeks of age; doing so before the first season reduces the risk of mammary tumours and other forms of cancer.

Many people also believe the fallacy that breeding a dog at least once before she is sterilised will make her a better pet. The truth is, many bitches are more likely to become aggressive towards people or other animals. Any changes in her temperament that occur during pregnancy or after whelping will probably be short-lived until the pups are weaned.

There is no medical, physical or emotional reason for a female dog to reproduce except to continue the species.

Another myth is that neutering cats and dogs make them lazy and overweight. It is not the neutering but eating too much and not getting enough exercise that make animals over-weight.

Neutering stops them from wandering, reduces their fighting and protects them from medical problems like testicular and mammary cancer.

Anyone who wants to know more is welcome to contact the SPCA at 018 788 6262. They can also visit the organisation's kennels in Beerster Street.

The Carletonville SPCA also reminds residents to download their app, on which they can easily communicate with staff and get information about animals that are up for adoption. These lovely dogs are currently looking for new homes.

Several people, including visitors from Soweto, Pretoria and Mpumalanga, attended the Merafong Lifestyle Market at the Carletonville Sports Complex on 24 August. Various businesses and organisations put up stalls during the event. According to the organisers, the event will be held again in 2020. Here, residents were relaxing at one of the stalls.
Pedestrian struck by bakkie

Adèle Louw

A pedestrian of around 30 years of age was critically injured when a bakkie hit him on the R500 in Carletonville on Monday.

The pedestrian was hit by a bakkie that had driven off the road about 17:38. The man was taken to Barberton Provincial Hospital where he later died. The driver of the bakkie fled the scene. The police are investigating the incident.

Another vehicle hijacked in Blybank area

Adèle Louw

In the second such incident during the past few weeks, a vehicle was hijacked near Blybank on Spring Day.

The communication officer of the police in Carletonville, WO Peter Masooa, says the complainant was driving his Volkswagen Golf 5 Fst 2.0 from Blybank to the city at around 06:45 on 1 September. A male and female passenger were in the car with him when the incident occurred. They were on the road to the Diefontein No. 7 shaft when a white car suddenly drove past him, slammed on brakes and stopped in front of him. Three armed men climbed out, walked towards the Golf and forced the driver to get out of the vehicle.

They tied his hands together with rope and took him into a field before returning to the car to get the passengers. They also tied the male passenger’s hands together and grabbed everyone’s cell phones before driving off in the two vehicles.

In another hijacking in the area, the owner of a silver grey Toyota Yaris was robbed of his vehicle around 20:00 on 28 August. According to WO Peter Masooa, the incident took place between Douglas Street and not in Barnard Street as previously stated.
Many addicts fear judgement

In this, the last of a three-part series, a member of the Carletonville branch of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) talks about the fear of judgement and how it could stop addicts from coming forward for help.

“On page 58 of the AA Big Book, one finds the famous 12 Steps that are practiced in most recovery programmes today. Step 5 requires us to admit to ourselves, God and another human being, the exact nature of our wrongs.

It is through this step that we overcome the fear we all have at this phase of recovery – the fear of judgement.

“I had to allow another person to truly see me. For decades, I hid the real me, even from myself, at the bottom of a bottle. When I got to the bottom of the bottle, I feared having to face all the character flaws, pain and imperfections I had, so I had another bottle.

“We comfort ourselves with the idea that if the outside world cannot see us, we cannot be seen. And this is why I would drink on my own until 02:00 because no one could see. I would wake up at 05:00 and start the crazy cycle all over again. I isolated myself from the world and had no connection with it. I was blinded and crippled because I lived in fear of being judged or trusting others because I did not want to look at myself.

“I shared my own – sometimes shocking – truths and received the same unconditional love and acceptance. In doing this, I learned to manage my emotions and form connections. I also re-learned to trust people again – inside the fellowship and without.”

“The reward is that these people chose you to share their deepest thoughts, stories and emotions with – they trust you in return. In the past, I would sit in the pub with a pal, thinking we were connecting with other people.

“But, these relationships are hollow and without meaning, because nobody gives a damn about you or themselves. Only in trusting and allowing people into our intimate space, do we connect with others and not fear the buffer of our substances of choice.

“So, if you want what we have and are willing to go to any length to get it, then you are ready to take certain steps,” she says.

All the services of the AA are free. People who want to contact the AA or Neelas can call their national 24-hour helpline at 086 143 5722, visit the website www.aasouthafrica.org or call Nico at 082 461 9627.

Column

Words of Wisdom - Violence against women is a men's issue

Alone Pilusa

In the 1960s, James Brown released a hit song titled, “It’s a Man’s World.” The track sold millions.

As much as people loved the song at that time, it exposed the attitude men have towards women. The song says, “Even though women are here, this world was made for men. It’s designed for males. Women are just filling in where needed. You women stay in your place: this is a man’s world.”

It is painful to note the history of how women of all nations have been regarded as inferior to men. Due to the traditional perceptions of women, they have been regarded as inferior to men. Second-class citizens, just objects of sensual gratification, weak, incapable of real strength – this is false hope. If we want to develop a winner’s mindset, we must humble ourselves and learn to think like a winner. We must understand that every champion begins with a winning mentality.

Confusing our moods with controlling our thoughts is almost impossible. If we learn to direct our thoughts, we can eventually gain control of our minds. The mind produces the thought. How we stimulate it or allow it into becomes who we are and determines the quality of our thoughts. Our thoughts shape our reality. How we act is determined by how we think.

A winner’s mindset is positive, even when things do not go their way. It is about going on, even when we do not see a future.

A winning mindset is not discouraged by what others say or do but sticks to a certain goal and does everything needed to make it happen. It is also about self-talk, the conversations we have with ourselves and what we tell ourselves.

When we have adopted a winner’s mindset, losing is no longer an option, even when facing failure. A winner’s mindset has the mental strength to cope through the hardships of our lives and overcome the setbacks and losses. Life is not easy but how we think can either make it easier or harder. The sooner we develop a winner’s mindset, the sooner we will see the results.

People expect immediate results but nobody takes the time to develop a winning mindset and then be patient. The result and sometimes the rewards are not based on monetary value but quality of life, happiness and fulfilling a goal in some departments and lose in others. Life is not all about winning – it is losing. The loser’s mindset helps us to cope with our loss; we may lose today and win tomorrow. We just have to let ourselves that we are winners and keep saying it until we believe it.

You are a winner if you think you are.

Column

Lets talk about it - A winning mindset

Kagiso Segone

Life is like a game of winning and losing. We all want something from it and we are here to get it. It is a mental battlefield on which our mindsets and attitudes determine how far we will go.

Many people do not realise how much of a mind game life is for us and we are here to get it. And this is why I would drink on my own until 02:00 because no one could see.

When we have adopted a winner’s mindset, losing is no longer an option, even when facing failure. A winner’s mindset has the mental strength to cope through the hardships of our lives and overcome the setbacks and losses.

Life is not easy but how we think can either make it easier or harder. The sooner we develop a winner’s mindset, the sooner we will see the results.

People expect immediate results but nobody takes the time to develop a winning mindset and then be patient. The result and sometimes the rewards are not based on monetary value but quality of life, happiness and fulfilling a goal in some departments and lose in others.
Water Affairs looking into pollution

Adele Louw

The Department of Water Affairs says it is currently looking into pollution near the Loopspruit in Fochville.

A concerned resident recently complained that someone had thrown mining waste into a storm water ditch near the Loopspruit. Large heaps of the cream-coloured material can still be seen there.

The Herald contacted the Department of Water and Sanitation, among other institutions, to get their view on the matter.

“The department is aware of the matter and is finalising regulatory action,” says Mr Mogale Ephraim Matseba. He is the manager of Institutional Establishment at Gauteng’s Department of Water and Sanitation.

Meanwhile, the Merafong City Local Municipality, which expected the results of laboratory tests on Friday, did not respond to related questions on Tuesday.

Man, uncle and cousin robbed at home

Adele Louw

A group of armed robbers attacked a man and his uncle in Khutsong Ext. 5 during the past week.

According to WO Peter Masooa of the police in Carletonville, the incident took place at around 20:15 on 29 August.

The complainant told police that he and his uncle were in the house when the latter said he wanted to buy airtime. As he opened the door to go, seven armed men pushed him back inside. They were all wearing balaclavas.

The suspects demanded money and searched the house to see what else they could steal. They took R2,140 from under a mattress and R2,000 from inside shoes. They also grabbed the man’s Samsung J4.

While the suspects were busy, the man’s cousin came to visit. They grabbed him and took his keys, R200 and his Nokia and Huawei cell phones. They then fled in his white Hyundai Elantra, with the registration number HM 72 LP GP.

Three drug busts in one day

Adele Louw

The police in Carletonville recently made several minor drug busts. WO Peter Masooa, the spokesperson, says a police officer was driving in Osmium Street at around 19:10 on 23 August when he noticed a suspicious man. He stopped, searched the man and found a plastic parcel with a drug suspected to be rock cocaine in his right pocket. He arrested the suspect at the scene.

In another incident the same day, a Carletonville schoolboy was arrested after police found dagga on him. The SAPS visited the school as part of a crime prevention operation and searched the first row of learners in a class. Afterwards, they randomly searched another child, who was sitting alone. The police found a ziplock bag of dagga in his possession. The learner admitted that it belonged to him and said he had bought it in Mohlakeng.

The police confiscated these bags of dagga, apparently destined for one of the schools in Carletonville, during the past week. In front are some dagga cookies.
Kasi pizza in Khutsong

Kagiso Segone

United by God, love and food, a Khutsong couple have recently opened a pizza joint in the township.

Karabo Semenya and Girly Manato opened the business because Karabo has had a passion for food for more than ten years. His hobby is playing with food in the kitchen and he often experiments with recipes.

Girly also loves food and enjoys baking. She used to sell food in town. “Cooking is an art,” she says with passion.

It all started when Karabo was feeling romantic and decided to make a pizza for his future wife. Girly’s younger brother gave people a taste of the leftovers and they loved it.

The pizza was immediately in demand and the couple decided to take advantage of the situation. On 5 March 2019, they opened their doors.

The God-fearing couple says the idea was heaven sent. Believing that everything is possible through God, they always put Him first in their business. They want to create employment and reduce the stronghold of drugs and alcohol on the community. “We want to employ those drug addicts. Where else can they go if local businesses do not give them an opportunity?” says Girly.

The couple has started their business without a budget. Because they strive to maintain a high level of quality and use only the genuine ingredients, the venture has been very costly. The main issue was presentation and, therefore, they use proper pizza boxes.

Karabo and Girly are astonished at the support they have received from the community and they want to grow their business. “Kasi pizza is our baby and God is at the centre of our business. We want to focus on growing and not on the profit for now,” insisted Girly. They run the kitchen from their humble home in Khayalethu Section.

The energetic couple with some of their pizzas

Met van die bestuurders wat op ons paai te sien is, is dit nie vreemd dat daar al meer stukkende lampapelle langs ons paaiê le nie. Die paal het die buite Fochville gesneeuel.

Municipality is charging residents too much

Jerry Ramokgaodi

The Merafong City Local Municipality tabled the annual tariff increases in June and apparently exceeded the National Treasury’s guidelines of five per cent.

This municipality made national news headlines for unlawfully investing ratepayers’ money in the defunct VBS Bank. Merafong also has cash-flow problems and is known to mismanage public funds.

The municipality has sent out exorbitantly high invoices to all its residents, with a stern warning. Failure to pay by the end of this month would result in water or electricity suspensions and additional interest on the arrears.

I, therefore, call on the offices of the National Consumer Commission to intervene on our behalf. I urge them to engage Merafong City Council and the Gauteng Provincial Government, Treasury and the Department of Cooperative Governance to establish whether the increases are in line with the applicable laws and regulations.

Lesers sê hul sê

Readers have their say

Volhard om op God te vertrou

Ds. André Kok, leraar van die NG Kerk

Lees Numeri 20:1-13:

Wou leggewes begeer om met hulle lewenswandel die eer en verheerliking van God na te jaag, sodat sy Konink- krysker kan geword word.

Die emigaree miet dit om te doen, is om God onvoorwaardelik en ongenag te belig in sy verdienste.

Die volk van God by geleentheid nie genoeg water vir hulself en hulle self nie, het Moses en Aäron die geheenheid gehad om vir die Israelite te wys hoe heilig en almalig God is (Num 20:2-4 en 12).

Op te loop nie “heilig” God is, sou beteken dat hulle met hulle geheersa- ne optrede die volk sou leer om die


Van hierdie optrede word gesê dat Moses en Aäron God nie genoeg vertrou het nie (Nuewe Lewende Vertaling, Num 20:12). Blykbaar het hulle ongeduldig geraak oor die opstandigheid en ontevredenheid van die volk (Ps 106:33). En dit sou gebeur as God nie in die gevreesde kos wat hy aan hom gegee het, nie in die geheersaan lewe van die Israelite in die land in te gaan nie, al het Moses God gesê dat hy kon deur trek en die mooi land anderkant die Jordaan te konsien (Deut 3:24-25).

As jy God nie vertrou nie, kan nie sanksies maak op gebedsvorheer nie. Jakobus het ook beklemtoon dat as ’n mens allyd aan die twyfel is, moet jy nie iets van die Here verwag nie (Jak 1:7-8). As jy

God in die geloof nader en op Hom vertrou, sal Hy jou onmoei met sy liefde.

Jy kan met ’n blye hart verwag dat die Here sy liefde oor jou sal hou, omdat jy op sy heilige Naam vertrou (Ps 89:14-15 en 139:1-24).

Ons moet nooit die almag van die Here onderskat nie. As ons geloëdoë ander redelike middens van God se sorg en liefde raaksien, sal ons vertroue in Hom nie weegkry nie, maar daarby kryt (Num 21:11).

Gebied: Dankie, o hemelse Vader, vir u wonderlike werkgewende liefde in Christus, wat my telkens deur tot oogawe en volkome vertroue in U doen.

Kyk na julle kinders

Die voorval waarin ’n dogtertjie van ’n kinder ontvoer is, toont aan dat daar nie vir die kinders van ons kinders is nie. Die voorval waarin ’n dogtertjie van ’n kinder ontvoer is, toont aan dat daar nie vir die kinders van ons kinders is nie. Die voorval waarin ’n dogtertjie van ’n kinder ontvoer is, toont aan dat daar nie vir die kinders van ons kinders is nie. Die voorval waarin ’n dogtertjie van ’n kinder ontvoer is, toont aan dat daar nie vir die kinders van ons kinders is nie. Die voorval waarin ’n dogtertjie van ’n kinder ontvoer is, toont aan dat daar nie vir die kinders van ons kinders is nie. Die voorval waarin ’n dogtertjie van ’n kinder ontvoer is, toont aan dat daar nie vir die kinders van ons kinders is nie. Die voorval waarin ’n dogtertjie van ’n kinder ontvoer is, toont aan dat daar nie vir die kinders van ons kinders is nie.
Hip-hop session identifies talent

Khutsong businessman tries his hand at manufacturing

Dock-on movie day at Tshwaraganang pre-school

Contraceptive implants have unmatched benefits

Khutsong businessman tries his hand at manufacturing

Kagiso Segone

From brick and mortar to cleaning materials – this is the story of Moeketsi Mogagabe. The 35-year-old emerging businessman from Khutsong decided to go the route of manufacturing after building six houses in the Elijah Barayi Project. He then realised that few black businespeople were in production as most focused on construction. “I knew there were opportunities in manufacturing, so I started a company called Kamoge-lo Thalang Legacy.” He currently manufactures products like oven cleaner, thick bleach, sonic deo cleaner, pine gel, dishwasher and hand sanitiser. He wants to open a workshop soon. “In this venture, I want to focus on supplying products for big companies and the government” he said. Moeketsi plans to empower young people as so many of them are unemployed.

Dock-on movie day at Tshwaraganang pre-school

Kagiso Segone

The Khutsong Film Crew facilitated a Dock-on movie day at Tshwaraganang pre-school in Khutsong to celebrate Women’s Month on Friday, 30 August. The children had to wear a doek on their heads to represent women. They learnt about the importance of women. According to the owner of the pre-school, Mrs Nkosi, being a woman starts from childhood. How a girl is raised from an early age will determine what kind of woman she will become. The children recited poems about being a woman and later enjoyed educational cartoons. The Khutsong Film Crew has been showcasing the cartoons in different pre-schools in Khutsong. The crew also screened the animations at Nhuthe Day Care in Khutsong on Thursday, 29 August.

Contraceptive implants have unmatched benefits

Joshua Monyalseng

The use of family planning in South Africa is variable, despite the public health sector providing it free of charge. The South African District Health Information System, as stated in 2014, supports this viewpoint. That year, only 37.3 per cent of women of child-bearing age were using modern family planning methods. These included the pill, injections like Depo and Nur-isterate and the intrauterine contraceptive device (IUCD).

Before April 2014, the public health sector did not offer the implant family planning method. However, the Department of Health has since decided to introduce it because of its unmatched benefits.

It also rolled out the contraceptive implant to increase and improve the range of choice for eligible users of family planning services. The department hoped it would reduce teenage pregnancies, unintended and unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortions and maternal deaths.

The contraceptive implant (Implanon NXT) lasts for three years after insertion on the upper arm. It is not user-dependent and more than 99 per cent effective. However, it is still largely unknown and is used less frequently than short-acting methods like pills, injections and condoms.

According to the United Nations, implant contraception is a life-saving commodity for women and children’s health. It is seen as the only family planning method with the potential to improve the sexual and reproductive health of people worldwide. A research study on Implanon NXT usage was conducted in Merafong in 2018. Five primary healthcare (PHC) facilities were used as study settings. The findings clearly showed that service users preferred injections, followed by pills and then condoms.

This preference led to family planning methods like the Implanon NXT and the IUCD gathering dust and expiring in the facility. The study also revealed some of the reasons why the implant is less popular. These included a lack of information on the Implanon NXT for service users and communities. These groups do not get enough information on the side-effects of the method and the implant is often unavailable. There are also societal misconceptions and myths. The barriers mentioned in the study and above impact negatively on the right to access healthcare. How can service users exercise their freedom of choice with out-of-stock situations and inadequate information on contraception?

The public health sector needs to raise awareness about all family planning methods available so people can make informed decisions. Print and electronic media, community radio stations, community-based dialogue, posters, leaflets and health days may be used to target communities.

The findings of the study of Implanon NXT showed that this method had declined in popularity since it was introduced in the public sector in 2014.
This week, more questions arose about the snail’s pace at which work is proceeding at the site of the new reservoir in Khutsong.

On Monday morning, a group of people burnt tyres in front of the gate. One of the representatives of the 28 workers affected, Mr Sam Bavia, said they had been sent for medical clearance on 2 July. Since then, they had heard nothing about when they would be employed.

Work at the site has been painfully slow since the project started in 2016. There is still no sign of the actual reservoir. The angry protesters pointed out workers who were sitting idle most of the time. They also showed photos of how some of the workers sat and played cards during working hours.

This is in stark contrast with a site, in Fochville, where another contractor is also building a new reservoir. These workers started work at the end of May and expect to complete the project by the end of the year. Although this reservoir is smaller than the one in Khutsong, the pace of work in Fochville is considerably faster.

“These people are not really working. They are just pushing heaps of sand around and are paid millions to do it,” a Khutsong resident remarked.

The Khutsong project falls under the Gauteng Provincial Government and the Merafong City Local Municipality is responsible for the one in Fochville.

The Herald asked Merafong why work is proceeding at the site of the new reservoir in Khutsong. “The contractors first had to rehabilitate a sinkhole before they could build the reservoir. The approved completion date has been extended to the end of July 2020,” a municipal spokesperson says. “The community liaison officer visited the site on Tuesday, 3 September and met with the contractors. If they reach an agreement on the employment issues, the resolution will be communicated,” concluded the spokesperson.

Despite the project starting as far back as 2016, there is still no sign of a new reservoir rising from the ground in Khutsong.

“Some people say these workers are getting ‘grants’ because they are not working for their money,” another Khutsong resident remarked.

Mr Jacob Gumede next to some of the high bushes the children have to pass on their way to school.

“The community liaison officer previously remarked about the work at the Khutsong site. ‘Some people say these workers are getting ‘grants’ because they are not working for their money,’ another Khutsong resident remarked.

The Merafong City Local Municipality has promised to clear the dangerous bushes near Flanaganami Primary School in Khutsong.

Residents of Khutsong Ext. 3, where the school is situated, recently complained about the bushes. A parent, Ms Hilda Matlakala, says she got a fright when, on two occasions, children told her they had come across snakes on their way from school. They allege that the snakes were black mambas, which are very poisonous.

In one instance, the children even played with the dead snake. “The bushes are so high; no wonder there are snakes there. The municipality has recently cleared the long grass and bushes in many other areas but not here. Our children’s lives are at risk as they have to walk past these bushes to get to school,” complains another community member, Mr Jacob Gumede.

Mr Jacob Gumede.

“The parks and cemeteries section is considerably faster. ‘The contractors first had to rehabilitate a sinkhole before they could build the reservoir. The approved completion date has been extended to the end of July 2020,’ a municipal spokesperson says. “The community liaison officer visited the site on Tuesday, 3 September and met with the contractors. If they reach an agreement on the employment issues, the resolution will be communicated,” concluded the spokesperson.

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“We will clear bushes,’ says Merafong

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The Herald took the community’s concerns to the municipality.

“The parks and cemeteries section will clear the bushes by the end of the week,” a spokesperson vowed.

During the week, residents of South Street in Carletonville were furious because sewage had once again flooded their yards and the street in front of their houses. These leaks continue, despite Onyx Drive being closed for months for a municipal contractor to repair the sewer line. The municipality previously reassured that this project would put an end to the leaks in the area. The Herald sent related questions to the Merafong City Local Municipality on Tuesday but has not yet received an answer.
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36 SEKURITEIT

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36 SEKURITEIT

36 SEKURITEIT
Om oor gruwels te skryf

Vanessa van der Westhuizen

Vir ‘n skrywer is ‘n eerste boek ‘n hoogtepunt. Net jammie alle skrywers kan nie altyd kies om oor maklike onderwerpe te skryf nie. Vir Susan Cilliers, ond Gimmie en ervare jornerals, is dit ‘n gegewe - jongdags moet gewoonlik verslag doen oor gebeure wat nie altyd ‘n mooi storie vertel nie. Dit was ‘n outkollega, Marida Firzpatrict wat Susan verlede jaar genader het om ‘n boek oor een van die mishandele kinders van die “Springs-huis” te skryf. Marida is ‘n nie-flikse outjewer by LAPA-Uitgivers en het vroeër saam met Susan as jorneral by Huisgenoot en Beeld in Johannesburg gewerk.

Eers het Susan genomende gevoele gehad: “Ek was bang want ek het nog nooit voorheen ‘n boek geskryf nie. As jorneral is ek gewoon om nog altyd artikels en berigte in ‘n sekere styl te skryf. ‘n Boek vereis ‘n meer kreatiewe skryfstyl. Maar aan die ander kant het ek geëered gevoel omdat sy my genader het en dit as ‘n uitdagings beskou.”

So is Susan se eerste boek “Huis van Gruwels – My 16 jaar in die Springs-Hel” vyf maande later geskryf. Dit is verlede week vrygestel. Die verhaal waard sy moes vertel, was die van die sestienjarige Landi wat saam met haar broers en susters en hulle ma in ‘n huis in Springs aangehoof is. Hulle pa, wat later deur die hof as ‘n psigopaat en sadis geklassifiseer is, het hulle mishandel en wreëngemartel. Hy het Landi ook verkrak en bedwelm. Die kinders is vasgebond, met ‘n knopkierie geslaan en ‘n blaasvlam gebrand. Van die vfy kinders, het sy slegs Landi tot graad 3 onderrig ontvang. Toe sy graad 3 drup, is sy ook nie weer skool toe gestuur nie. Landi het op 12-jarige ouderdom die huishouding oorgeneem nadat haar ma nog drie babas in die lewe gebring het. Sy het die rol van die versorgster oorgegeneen. Dit was sy wat gemaak het dat haar jongste zusie as vroegebore babas na twee weke is genees en haar ouers gevra om haar weer dokter toe te neem. Die babas is toe met water op die brein gediagnoseer.

Na jare se hel, het die oudste seun een aand in Mei 2014 na die bure toe gevlag vir hulp omdat hy bang was sy pa gaan hom doodslaan. Die bure, Hanlie en Hennu Venter, kon aanvanklik niks doen toe sy pa hom drup. Dit was so dié geskryf in die eerste persoon se perspektief te bemeester. “Ek moes leer wanneer om die verhaal in die eerste persoon te skryf, en wanneer om dit uit die derde persoon se perspektief te skryf,” vertel sy. Tog sal Susan die boek weer skryf as sy weer die koue moet maak. “Ek het so bate uit die boek geleer. Nie net oor die skryfruksus nie, maar ek het groot bewondering vir Landi. Sy het my geleer om dankbaar te wees vir die kleinste goed en dat ‘n mens self verantwoordelikheid vir jou lewe moet aanvaar. Landi was aan die begin opstandig, wou nie skool toe gaan nie en het gerek en in die siekheidsentrum gesit en huil. Dit was haar tannie wat eendag haar gesê het sy moes besluit of sy gaan terug na haar leefde en of sy gaan aanbeweeg en ‘n sukses van haar lewe maak. Landi het toe, op 16-jarige ouderdom, ‘n doelbewuste besluit geneem om voluit te begin leer. Sy was in matriek haar skool toegelaat, maar het besluit geneem om voluit te begin leer. Landi het op 12-jarige ouderdom na die Amatola College toe gaan, ondervind die wente van skool en het sy moes leer hoe om die kreatiewe skryfstyl te bemeester. “Ek moes leer wanneer om die verhaal in die eerste persoon te skryf, en wanneer om dit uit die derde persoon se perspektief te skryf,” vertel sy. Tog sal Susan die boek weer skryf as sy weer die koue moet maak. “Ek het so bate uit die boek geleer. Nie net oor die skryfruksus nie, maar ek het groot bewondering vir Landi. Sy het my geleer om dankbaar te wees vir die hardhandig van hulle verwyder het nie, maar het die voorval die volgende dag by die politie gerapporteer. Die politie en maatskaplike werkers kon nie glo in watter hagliklike toestand die huis was nie – vui en deurmekaar met rotte vrylik rondgeloop het.

Die kinders is uit die ouers se sorg verwyder. In 2018 is die pa, wat ook as die “Springs Monster” bekend genaamd het, skuldig bevind aan verkraking, poging tot moord, kindermishandel en die beset van onwettige dwelms. Hy het 67 jaar tromskraf gekry, waarvan hy 35 jaar moet uitdien. Die ma is seuns aan kinderverwaarlosoing skuldig bevind en het ‘n opgeskorte vonnis van vyf jaar gekry, gekoppel aan voorwaardes soos dat sy vir siekheidsvrae verantwoordelik moet word. Susan het die onderhoude met die oudste dochter, Landi verlede jaar in Springs gevoer toe Landi by haar pleegouers gebring het. Dit was haar wens om ‘n boek te skryf oor haar tyd in die gruwelhuis. Sy het dit ook met een van die hoofstiften aan ‘n jorneral gesê. Vir Susan was dit die skryf van die boek nie maklik nie. Eendersys omdat die intliging wat sy in ‘n boek moes verwerk haar ontstel het en andersys omdat sy moes leer hoe om die kreatiewe skryfstyl te bemeester.

Vir ’n skrywer is ‘n eerste boek ‘n grootste les uit die boek is dat jy moet gaan en ’n sukses van jou lewe maak. Landi het toe, op 16-jarige ouderdom, ‘n doelbewuste besluit geneem om voluit te begin leer. Sy was in matriek haar skool toegelaat, maar het besluit geneem om voluit te begin leer. Landi het op 12-jarige ouderdom na die Amatola College toe gaan, ondervind die wente van skool en het sy moes leer hoe om die kreatiewe skryfstyl te bemeester. “Ek moes leer wanneer om die verhaal in die eerste persoon te skryf, en wanneer om dit uit die derde persoon se perspektief te skryf,” vertel sy. Tog sal Susan die boek weer skryf as sy weer die koue moet maak. “Ek het so bate uit die boek geleer. Nie net oor die skryfruksus nie, maar ek het groot bewondering vir Landi. Sy het my geleer om dankbaar te wees vir die grootste les uit die boek is dat jy jou lewe ten goede kan verander wanneer jy self daardie besluit neem.”

Susan Cilliers. Foto: Venessa van der Westhuizen

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Susan Cilliers. Foto: Venessa van der Westhuizen

Tim Kliphuis Trio in Potchefstroom

NWU Arts will present the Tim Kliphuis Trio’s performance at the NWU School of Music, Conservatorium in Potchefstroom at 19:00 on 14 September 2019. The award-winning Dutch violinist, Tim Kliphuis is a legend in the gypsy world. Teaming up with Nigel Clark (guitar) and Roy Percy (bass), they prefer the music of J.S. Bach, Django and the Chieftains to create an intensely moving concert experience. Hot on the heels of their second release with Sony Classical, “Concerto”, the trio takes to the road again for their 12th season, having racked up successes at classical festivals, concert halls, competitions and clubs worldwide. A continuing journey into the heart and soul, they play only one genre: Music. Kliphuis has created a brand-new style that embraces classical, gypsy jazz and folk. Hailed as a ‘current-day improvising Paganini’, his inclusive approach to music has united audiences and is influencing a new generation of string players. After his master’s degree in classical violin at the Amsterdam Conservatoire, Kliphuis studied with the European Sinti gypsy. He recorded and toured with gypsy guitar legends Fapy Lafertin, The Rosenberg Trio and Angelo Debarre. An invitation to the Richard Strauss Festival in Germany kickstarted Kliphuis’ crossover career. Celebrating ‘total music’ without stylistic barriers. He performed for the Dutch King at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, for Celtic Connecti ons Glasgow, at the Django Reinhardt Festival in Samoëns-sur-Seine and has toured America, South Africa and Russia extensively. In 2015, The Tim Kliphuis Trio premiered Vivaldi-based “Reflecting the Seasons”, which was recorded on Sony Classical in 2016; “Brandenburg”, based on Bach, and the Kliphuis Violin Concerto followed in 2018. Tickets for their breathtaking instrumental show “Brandenburg” are available at www.arte-ma.co.za, AJR (MooiRiver Mall), Protea Boekwinkel (Bult), NWU School of Music and the Heimat building (F9) at the NWU.

Photo: Muziekzomer.nl

The Tim Kliphuis Trio. Foto: Muziekzomer.nl
Arbor Day/Week runs from 1 to 7 September. Have you decided what tree to plant this Arbor Day and during Greening Week? Arbor Day/Week was deel van die deelnemers se avontuurtreapie-sessie. Foto: Johan Potgieter
Ironshak Gym goes professional

Adele Louw

What used to be a few young people from the streets practising on home-made equipment has now become a fully-fledged gymnasium.

The Herald previously reported on Isak Dladla, a former learner of Carletonville High School. He started the gym at his mother’s house in Khutsong Ext. 5 to give young people in the area a healthier alternative to the drugs they had been using.

The “Ironshak Gym” was built in a shack but later grew to 105 members, mostly learners from Badirile, Tswasongu and Relebogile High Schools.

On Monday, however, the All Out Fitness House opened in the yard of the Christian Worship Centre opposite the Khutsong Ext. 5 library. This new gym, just around the corner from Dladla’s mother’s house, is now a fully-equipped facility that also offers cross-fit training and aerobics. Dladla says a friend saw the need for a proper gym in the area and helped to buy the professional equipment.

Many older people, especially women, now also come to the gym to get into shape for the summer. Dladla plans to establish a bodybuilding team that will take part in competitions. Despite all the new additions and upgrades, all the original members are still part of the project, even if they cannot afford gym fees.

Enthusiastic young woman uses opportunities

Adele Louw

A young woman from Carletonville who is a semi-finalist in the Empress South Africa pageant is using this opportunity to improve herself and others.

According to 21-year-old Kgapo Selepe, who studies marketing in Johannesburg, she entered the pageant because she always wanted to do modelling to change the lives of others. So far, her dream has started to come true as the competition has given her more opportunities for self-development that she ever thought possible.

“The organisers continually send us links to books like “The Art of War” by Sun Tzu and “How to Win Friends and Influence People” by Dale Carnegie. I love reading this because I learn so much from it. The organisers and the reigning Empress, Tshepo Makhupu, motivate us so much. They make you realise that you can do anything if you put your mind to it.”

But, you cannot do it alone – you need the support of others who share your dreams. I am trying to motivate the people I come across in the same way as part of the activities I am doing for the competition,” says the enthusiastic Selepe. She has also picked up other skills since entering, like business and communication acumen.

The Empress South Africa pageant is an online pageant that is the biggest of its kind in the country.

Selepe grew up in Northern Limpopo and loved playing basketball and chess while at school. She has so far visited the Zanele Mtshali disability homes, where she has helped to feed some of the patients.

She is also a firm believer in donating blood and, for this reason, also champions the South African National Blood Service (SANBS).

Anyone who wants to vote for her in the pageant can SMS the name Kgabo Selepe to 35334.
Hoërskool Fochville se rugby-spanne eindig goeie seisoen

Adele Louw

Hoërskool Fochville se eerste rugby-span, asook van die jonger spelers, het die afgelope seisoen groot hoogtes bereik.


Hulle het ook tweede in die finaal van die Leeus-liga geëindig na hulle die knie teen 'n sterk privaatskool, Leerwintern, Akademie van Bedfordview, moes buig.

Volgens die skool se woordvoerder, mnr. Jaco Pretorius, het die o.15 en o.16 spanne ook geskitter deur hulle afdelings van die Leeus-liga te wen.

Die o.14 span het ook met groot gees die derde plek in die ligga behaal.

“Dit was 'n besondere Fochie rugby jaar en groot dank aan al die borge, afrigters en ouers vir die ondersteuning en aansporing,” sê Pretorius.

El Shaddai se ruiters skitter

Adele Louw

Ruiters van die El Shaddai perdy-klub by Water’s Edge het met tale toekennings tydens die nasionale “Saddle Seat” kampioenskap wegry.

Die byeenkoms het op 16 en 17 Augustus by die Afridome op Parys plaasgevind en ruiters van Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Noordwes, die Noord-Kaap, Vrystaat en Wes-Kaap het meegeding.

Klein Elke Burger, wat maar net drie jaar oud is, het in die vlak 0-16i stap-klas meegeding. Hy het in die “performance”-afdeling op Funny Girl ’n sevende plek behaal.

Dee-kyfjarige Hannah-Mari van Wyk was op Royal Heights Royal Supreme die naasnaauber in die Vlak 1 in hand stap-klas. Sy het met dieselfde perd die agtste plek in die vlak 7 siertuig-klas ingepalm en ook haar staal in die Vlak 1 stap drafklas gewys. Hier het sy op Clover Leaf True Believer ’n derde plek in die ruiterkuns-klas behaal.

Die vyfjarige Zene Bench het op Funny Girl in die Vlak 4 Driekoppie “performance”-klas en ’n tweede plek in die Vlak 4 siertuig-klas ingepalm.

Blanche Kruger het op Kings Messenger in die Vlak 2 stap drafklas ’n tweede plek in die “performance”-klas en ’n derde plek in die ruiterkuns-klas behaal.

El Shaddai se ruiters skitter tydens die nasionale kompetisie met hul afrigters op die veld.