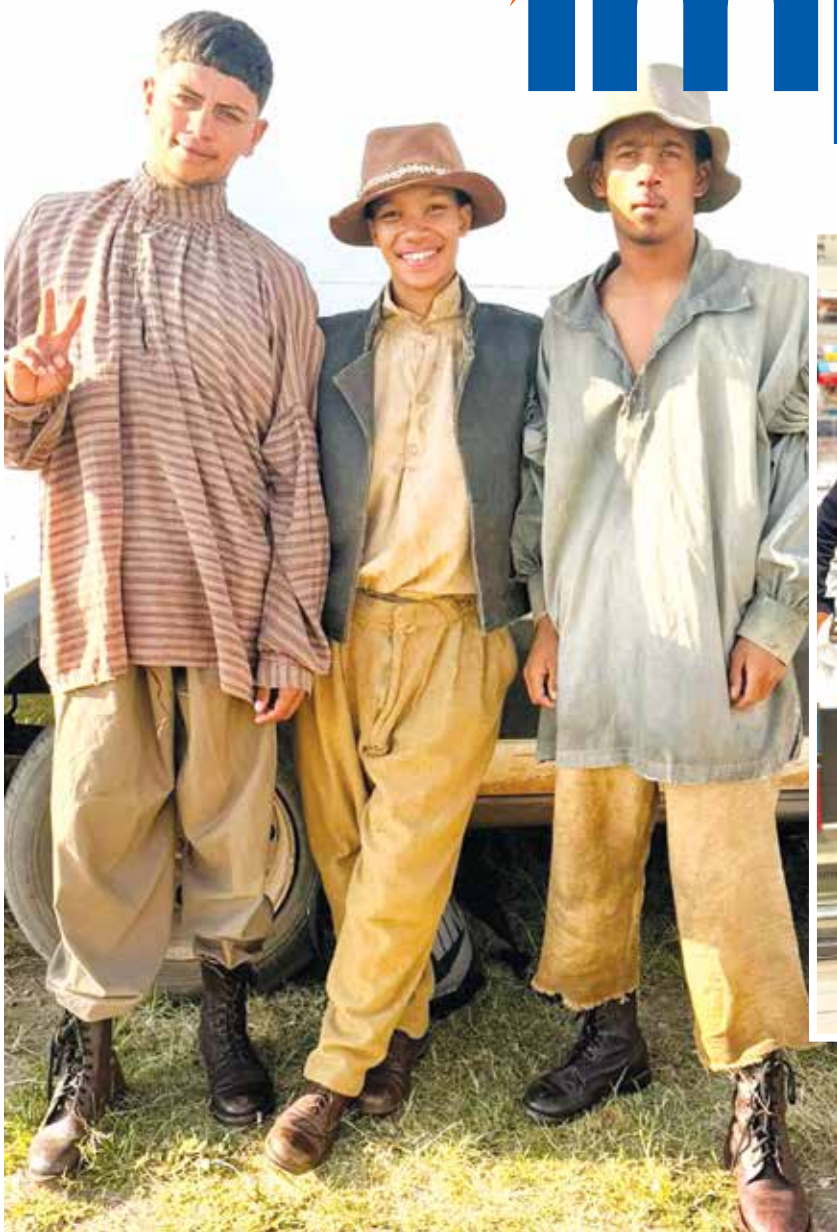




Mamre trio maak hul TV-deurbraak

-Hierdie drie jongmense van Mamre maak het onlangs hul TV-deurbraak gemaak. Mogammat Davids, Tammy-Lee Krieling en Zyron Hare was gekies om as ekstras te verskyn in die televisiereeks 'Shaka iLembe'

READ MORE ON PAGE 7

BAYS SHOULD BE WHERE DEMAND EXISTS

Better deal promised for local street- traders

STORY ON PAGE 3



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Aanlynbedrog is aan die toeneem, sê SAPS

Volgens misdaad-statistiek, word aanlynbedrog 'n al hoe groter probleem in gemeenskappe. Atlantis-polisie se stasiebevelvoerder, Kolonel Mario Thyse, sê hy is steeds verbaas oor hoeveel mense in die strik val.

Hy sê daar is verskeie vorme van bedrog waarvan die publiek bewus moet wees. Die mees algemene tipes bedrog sluit in vooraf-fooi-bedrog, prystrekking- en kompetisies, afspraak- en romanse-swendelary, rekenaar-inbraak (*hacking*) aanlyn-aankopebedrog, bank-, krediet- en rekeningbedrog, kleinsake-swendelary, asook werk- en indiensnemingsbedrog. Hy pleit by die publiek om bedag te wees en die volgende wenke in gedagte te hou:

- Ignoreer enige dringende versoeke om persoonlike inligting te deel. Geen bank sal ooit vir jou identiteitsnommer, PIN-kode of ander sensitiewe besonderhede vra nie. Gaan liever persoonlik na jou bank om navraag te doen. Bedrieërs skep dikwels 'n gevoel van dringendheid en vrees, en beweer dat jou bankrekening opgeskort sal word indien jy nie onmiddellik reageer nie.
- Regte beleggingsgeleenthede belowe nie vinnige, risikovrye

winste nie. Betroubare instansies sal jou nie lukraak via sosiale media of WhatsApp-boodskappe kontak nie. Indien jy by 'n beleggingsgroep op sosiale media gevoeg word, verlaat of blokkeer die groep onmiddellik.

- Moet nooit vooruit betaal vir aanlyn goedere of voertuie nie. Wees ook versigtig vir sogenaamde deposito's wat in jou bankrekening gemaak word en glo eers na twee dae beskikbaar sal wees. Vra eerder vir fisiese oorplasinge by hulle kantore, onmiddellike elektroniese betalings, of betaal kontant wanneer moontlik.
- As 'n aanbod te goed lyk om waar te wees, is dit waarskynlik nie eg nie.

Thyse voeg by dat kuber-afknouery (*cyber-bullying*) ook 'n groeiende probleem is. Dit kan ernstige regsgevolge hê, insluitend kriminele aanklagte, boetes of selfs gevangenisstraf, asook siviele eise vir laster of emosionele skade en beskermingsbevele. In Suid-Afrika kan oortreders vervolgd word kragtens die Wet op Kuber misdade en die Wet op Beskerming teen Teistering, veral in gevalle van dreigemente, teistering of die verspreiding van naak of intieme fotos en videos.

Beware of new WhatsApp scammer

The City of Cape Town is warning customers to be cautious after a suspected scammer attempted to trick a large electricity user into making a payment through WhatsApp of one million rand.

The customer was recently contacted via WhatsApp by someone claiming to represent the municipality. The individual, identifying himself as "Mr Collins", allegedly threatened that the customer's electricity supply would be disconnected if an outstanding amount was not paid immediately.

The scammer reportedly shared what appeared to be a disconnection notice and followed up with repeated phone calls and messages when the customer did not respond. The man also referenced the correct municipal account number. Fortunately, the customer became suspicious and contacted the City to verify the request. Suspicious activity like this can be reported to the City's Call Centre on 0860 103 089, the fraud hotline on 0800 32 31 30, or email at fraud.hotline@capetown.gov.za. Cases can also be reported to the South African Police Service.

Swift action takes another gun off Atlantis streets

OWN REPORTER

After a tip-off early last week, four Atlantis police members acted swiftly and searched a premises in Hoop Crescent, where they discovered a firearm in a Wendy house, concealed under a mattress.

The subsequently arrested a 45-year-old male on a charge of possession of a prohibited firearm and ammunition. The firearm was seized and sent away to determine if it was used in other shooting incidents. "Despite the negativity towards the police on social media,



there are still dozens of community members who believe in the police and pass on information. I want to express my gratitude to those community members, because you are the eyes and ears of the police," says Colonel Mario Thyse. Pictured, from left to right, are Sergeant Elroy Damonse, Constable Timothy Daniels, Constable Jamy Fisher and Constable Arlene Hector, who was responsible for the swift arrest.



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Kom probeer die heel beste geelvet biltong

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Street-traders wants to be closer to public movement

PETER LATEGAN



- These trading bays have largely become a white elephant, despite the City spending millions a few years ago. On the left, local traders at a recent consultative meeting with officials.

The City of Cape Town recently called on residents, business owners, and community stakeholders in Atlantis to participate in the public comment process for its newly drafted informal trading plan.

The draft plan outlines where informal trading may take place, the types of trading permitted, and the management approach the City intends to follow to support a thriving and orderly trading environment. The City hopes the revised plan will better align with the current needs of both traders and the broader community. Local councillor, Allistair Lightburn, said that increasing access to trading locations can create more opportunities for residents to generate income and contribute to job creation. Strengthening the informal sector, he added, helps ensure that economic inclusion remains central to community development.

To help residents engage with the draft plan more easily, the City hosted an information session last month, where officials presented the key features of the proposal, answered questions, and guided attendees on how to submit formal comments. The City has also detailed major updates proposed in the revised plan for Atlantis, aimed at strengthening economic activity, improving safety, and ensuring trading bays are positioned where there is proven demand.

At the February information session, held at the Wesfleur Library, attendance comprised more than 30 traders, who raised several key concerns. These issues included bay dimensions and the vulnerability of gazebo-style structures during strong winds, which can lead to costly replacements. Overall, traders expressed broad support for the revised plan and the Atlantis Trading Association committed to submitting written comments ahead of the 10 March deadline.

According to the City's Mayoral Committee Member for Economic Growth, Alderman James Vos, the plan introduces additional trading

opportunities in both wards, while bays with no historical uptake are earmarked for retirement so that municipal investment can be directed toward areas with genuine economic activity. "The updated strategy prioritises pedestrian movement, accessibility, and alignment with formal and informal economic nodes, placing bays in visible, high-traffic areas to improve traders' chances of success," said Vos.

Several residents have questioned why certain bays, particularly those near the Atlantis Taxi Rank opposite Atlantis City Mall, have been underutilised despite the City spending millions on them a few years ago. The City claims these bays have recently 'shown stronger potential for structured micro-enterprise activity.' They say operators have approached the City expressing interest in trading there, indicating that the area is beginning to develop into a more active commercial space. The expansion of the adjacent Business Hives has further contributed to renewed demand.

Vos said to prevent a repeat of past issues, the City outlined several measures in the revised plan, including:

- Positioning bays along high pedestrian movement routes.
- Ensuring visibility and easy customer access.
- Prioritising safety near transport nodes and intersections.
- Encouraging integration between formal and informal trading.
- Focusing on areas with consistent economic activity.

"A limited number of relocations are included in the draft plan following recommendations from Urban Mobility, where existing bays posed safety risks, obstructed visibility, or conflicted with road-use requirements. All relocations aim to preserve trading continuity while ensuring public and trader safety," Vos explained.

More trading bays planned for informal entrepreneurs

The City of Cape provided a detailed comparison in both wards 29 and 32 respectively, between the current trading infrastructure and the proposed changes:

- Ward 29:
- 80 existing bays (2015)
 - 39 removed for non-viability
 - 41 viable bays remaining
 - 81 new opportunities proposed
 - 122 total viable bays under the 2026 plan.

- Ward 32:
- 23 existing bays (2015)
 - 5 removed for safety-related reasons
 - 18 viable bays remaining
 - 22 new opportunities proposed
 - 40 total viable bays under the 2026 plan

April grant dates

SASSA has confirmed the payment schedule for April as follows: Older persons' grants will be paid first on 2 April, while disability will be on 7 April. Children's grants and other categories will be made on 8 April 2026. Recipients of the Social Relief of Distress (SRD) grant can expect payments between 24 and 30 April.

Janel van Vliet

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ASEZ donation boosts digital access



At the beginning of March, the Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ) proudly donated several laptops to West Coast TVET College in support of student learning and improved digital access.

Waheeda Saib, Chief Financial Officer of the Atlantis Special Economic Zone, emphasised the broader significance gesture: “By redirecting functional laptops to West Coast TVET College, we are ensuring that public resources continue to create meaningful value beyond their initial lifecycle. Supporting digital access for

students is an investment in human capital, and ultimately, in the long-term economic sustainability of the Atlantis region.” West Coast TVET College, the only TVET institution in the immediate area, plays a critical role in developing technical and vocational skills for the region. Access to laptops will assist students with research, assignments, online learning, and digital submissions, helping to bridge the digital divide.



AFTER 30 YEARS, HUMAN RIGHTS DAY SHOULD BE AS IMPORTANT AS EVER

With the advent of democracy in 1994, South Africa adopted a progressive Constitution that places human rights at the centre of the country’s democratic values.

The Bill of Rights, contained in the Constitution, guarantees fundamental freedoms that were denied to millions of South Africans under apartheid. In recognition of the sacrifices made during the struggle for these rights, 21 March was declared Human Rights Day, ensuring that future generations remember the cost of freedom. South Africa’s post-apartheid Constitution, adopted in 1996, is widely regarded as one of the most progressive constitutions in the world. It serves as the foundation of the country’s democracy, reflecting a deep commitment to human dignity, equality and freedom. The Constitution not only outlines how government functions but also protects the rights of all citizens, providing a framework for the promotion and protection of

human rights across the country. The country commemorates the day every March, and this year under the theme “Bill of Rights at 30: Making Human Dignity Real.” The observance of Human Rights Month is rooted in the tragic events of the Sharpeville massacre on 21 March 1960, when the apartheid regime opened fire on peaceful protestors, killing 69 people and exposing the brutality of the state’s human rights violations.

At the time, systemic inequality was enforced through oppressive legislation such as the pass laws and the Group Areas Act, which controlled the movement and lives of black South Africans. The collective struggle, helped pave the way for a constitutional democracy founded on justice, equality and human dignity.

- PHOTO: CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



PRESS OMBUD (PART-TIME)

THE PRESS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA (PCSA) invites applications for the position of Press Ombud, a senior, independent, and quasi-judicial role crucial for enhancing media accountability and safeguarding ethical journalism and public trust in the media.

ROLE OVERVIEW

The Press Ombud is a part-time position responsible for independently and fairly resolving complaints against member entities of the Press Council. Working within South Africa’s system of independent co-regulation, the Press Ombud upholds the Press Code of Ethics and Conduct, safeguards public interest, and promotes media freedom through transparent and impartial decision-making. The role is supported by two Deputy Ombuds and is mainly adjudicative. Independence of the Press Ombud The Press Ombudsman exercises adjudicative authority independently of the Council’s governance structures.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Receive, assess, and adjudicate complaints against member publications in line with the Press Code.
- Issue clear, well-reasoned rulings based on ethical principles and constitutional values, including freedom of expression and dignity.
- Provide leadership and guidance to Deputy Ombuds, ensuring consistency and procedural fairness.
- Manage effective and accessible complaints processes aligned with the Press Council’s FAIR principles (Factual, Accountable, Independent, Responsible).
- Contribute to the interpretation and development of ethical standards, including digital journalism and emerging technologies.

- When appropriate, participate in public engagement and stakeholder discussions on the adjudication framework (without commenting on cases).
- Required Qualifications and Experience**
 - A fair understanding of the South African legal system, journalism, media regulation, adjudication or similar fields.
 - Demonstrable expertise in constitutional law, media law, ethics, or human rights.
 - Proven ability to evaluate complex factual disputes and apply ethical principles with clarity and fairness.
 - Strong writing skills, with the ability to produce clear, publicly accessible decisions.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Part time appointment, with workload dependent on complaint volumes and complexity
- Appointment made in accordance with the Press Council’s constitution and governance framework.
- The role is incompatible with active editorial, political, or commercial positions that could lead to conflicts of interest.
- Applicants must be citizens of the Republic of South Africa and be committed to the values underpinning the South African Constitution, as well as the Press Council’s Code of Ethics and Conduct.

Applications must be sent to millicent@presscouncilsa.org.za.

CLOSING DATE: 31 MARCH 2026

Send your news tips, ideas, events or comments to newsroom@impactunlimited.co.za

Groot stygings in brandstof- pryse gaan almal se sak ruk

Motoriste in Suid-Afrika gaan in April 'n massiewe styging in brandstofpryse in die gesig staar, met vroeë voorspellings wat dui op van die grootste verhogings in jare vir beide petrol en diesel.

Stygende internasionale oliepryse is die hoofrede vir die verwagte verhogings. Konflik en spanning in die Midde-Ooste het wêreldwye olievoorsiening ontwig en ruoliepryse laat styg. Omdat Suid-Afrika die meeste van sy brandstof invoer, word plaaslike pryse direk hierdeur geraak. Kenners is dit eens dat hierdie rekordvlakke beslis verdere druk op huishoudings en besighede sal plaas, met hoër vervoerkoste, duurder kospryse en toenemende inflasie namate die koste deur die ekonomie deurwerk. Die situasie word ook vererger deur 'n swakker rand en beplande belastingverhogings op brandstof wat op 1 April in werking tree, insluitend aanpassings aan die algemene brandstofheffing en die



Padongelukkefonds-heffing. Die verwagte prysaanpassings is soos volg:

- Petrol 93 sal na verwagting met R3.87 per liter styg
- Petrol 95 kan met R4.27 per liter verhoog
- Diesel 0.05% (groothandel) sal met R7.04 per liter styg
- Diesel 0.005% (groothandel) kan met R7.15 per liter verhoog
- Paraffien sal na verwagting met R8.99 per liter styg

GABS are not increasing busfares...for now

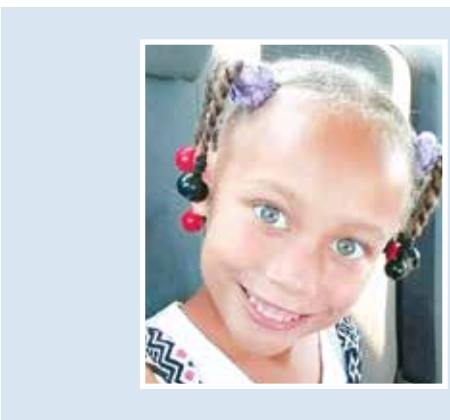
Golden Arrow Bus Services (GABS) has confirmed that it will not be implementing a fare increase at this stage, despite mounting pressure from rising fuel costs.

According to GABS Public Relations Manager, Bronwen Dyke-Beyer, the situation is a serious concern for the company, but efforts are being made to shield commuters from the immediate impact. "We plan to absorb these costs for as long as possible, but we will be monitoring the situation very closely over the coming months," she said. Dyke-Beyer explained that that fare increases are typically only considered once all possible cost-saving measures have been

exhausted. "We are always conscious of the fact that our passengers are also deeply affected by the current economic climate," she added. As part of its long-term strategy, GABS has been investing in electric buses and although they are not an immediate solution to current cost pressures, they represent a future-focused approach to managing expenses. Currently, all electric buses operate from the company's largest depot, which services routes as far as Killarney, and therefore do not yet operate in Atlantis. A monthly ticket from Atlantis to Bellville currently costs R1,894, while a weekly pass is priced at R430.50.

Joshlin Smith stigting in Saldanha geloods

Tydens 'n geleentheid by die Dial Rock-gemeenskapsentrum in Saldanhabaai op Saterdag 14 Maart, het die leier van die Patriotic Alliance, Gayton McKenzie, die Joshlin Smith-stigting amptelik geloods, terwyl hy sy verbintenis hernu het om die vermiste meisie op te spoor.



Die stigting, wat sal fokus op die opsporing van vermiste kinders en ondersteuning aan hul families, sal deur 'n toegewyde span bestuur word. McKenzie het gesê hy sal nie by die daaglikse bedrywighede betrokke wees nie, maar sal die inisiatief ondersteun. Die bekendstelling kom egter te midde van vroeëre kritiek en vrae oor verdragings met die stigting, wat reeds twee jaar gelede belowe is, maar eers nou gerealiseer het. McKenzie het dié kritiek van die hand gewys en gesê dit was belangrik om die stigting behoorlik te vestig eerder as om dit te oorhaastig te doen.

Joshlin het twee jaar gelede in Saldanhabaai verdwyn en bly steeds vermis ondanks uitgebreide ondersoeke. Haar ma en twee mede-beskuldigdes dien tans lewenslange tronkstraf uit in verband met haar verdwyning. Volgens McKenzie is daar nuwe leidrade wat moontlik die ondersoek kan bevorder en hy beplan om met die waarnemende minister van polisie, Firoz Cachalia,

te vergader om dié inligting te deel. Volgens ingeligte bronne het McKenzie glo verlede Saterdag met Cachalia vergader. McKenzie het ook bevestig dat privaat ondersoekers betrek is. Hy het verder aangedui dat een van die beskuldigdes moontlik bereid is om verdere besonderhede te verskaf, wat nuwe hoop skep dat meer lig op die saak gewerp kan word. Die minister het gesê as deel van die stigting se eerste projekte sal ondersteuning aan Joshlin se broers en susters gebied word, insluitend hulp met skoolgeld en ander basiese behoeftes. Daar is ook planne vir gemeenskapsinisiatiewe, soos die ontwikkeling van 'n sportfasiliteit by haar voormalige skool.



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finance@orionorganisation.co.za **CLOSING DATE:** 17 April 2026





Western Cape heatwave shatters many records

Residents across the Western Cape and parts of the Northern Cape endured an intense and record-breaking heat wave during the week beginning 9 March, with several weather stations registering the highest March temperatures seen in more than a decade.

According to the South African Weather Service (SAWS), the extreme heat was caused by a strong, slow-moving high-pressure system which triggered widespread temperature spikes, particularly in the Namakwa District and across the Western Cape interior. In the Western Cape, several locations experienced exceptional heat, including parts of the Cape Metropole and the Cape Winelands. Cape Town itself recorded an extraordinary maximum temperature of 42.1°C, surpassing previous March readings recorded over the past 11 years. In Atlantis and Mamre temperatures of at least 42°C were reported on some community WhatsApp groups.

By Monday 16 March, temperatures began easing as the system moved out of the region, allowing more typical seasonal conditions to return. SAWS said this reinforced growing concerns about the increasing intensity of extreme weather event and authorities urged residents to take precautions against heat-related risks, particularly the elderly, infants and young children.

STRAAT-PRAAT ■ STREET-TALK

The recent record-breaking heatwave in the Western Cape, was definitely not for the fainthearted. Apart from visiting the public swimming pool in Atlantis, trainee reporter **KRYSTINA PRETORIUS** also spoke to several readers of Impact News, asking them how they coped with these unusually hot days.



"Sometimes a person couldn't think straight, that's how warm the weather was. Especially with the fasting, the heat just affected us even more. We just took cold showers and waited till I could break my fast and drink a lot of cold water." – **JADA AND AHSHUD**

"The heat was totally unbearable, which made it difficult to study or just to be productive in general. Honestly, you just dealt with it and went on. I would usually drink cold water and sit under the fan, and then waited until it was night-time, when it was cooler, to study." – **KIRSTYN MOUERS** (Grade 12 learner)



"Dis in tye soos dié waar ek die winter waardeer. Die hitte was onnatuurlik, en 'n mens se liggaam is nie gewoond daaraan nie. Ek het baie vloeistof gedrink, wat baie teen dehidrasie gehelp het. Verder het ek maar myself koel gewaai met 'n boekie of lappie, nie dat dit juis gehelp het nie." – **DELISIA MARTHINUS**



Ek werk by Atlantis Coach Works en het baie gesweet wanneer ons met die karre werk. Ek kon nie eens dink om 'n bietjie koffie of tee te drink nie. Ek het net baie yskoue water en nou en dan 'n koeldrank gedrink. Ek was heeltyd papnat gesweet, so die hitte was uitputtend." – **ANGELO ADAMS**



Ek doen afleweringe en elke vyf of tien minute het ons yswater gesoek by die mense waar ons goedere afgelaai het. Jy het nie geweet hoe om net koel te bly nie." – **GERALD MULLER**

Traditional Cape Malay pickled fish still a firm favourite

Easter means different things to different people. But for many households, Good Friday won't be the same without pickled fish and hot-cross buns. Here's a tried and trusted recipe

Ingredients

- 1.5–2 kg firm fish (hake, snoek, or yellowtail)
- 2 cups cake flour
- 2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp black pepper
- Oil for frying

For the pickling sauce you will need:

- 5 large onions, sliced into rings
- 500 ml white vinegar
- 250 ml water
- 4–5 tbsp brown sugar
- 2 tbsp curry powder (Cape Malay style if available)
- 1 tbsp turmeric
- 1 tsp ground coriander
- 1 tsp mustard seeds
- ½ tsp cumin seeds
- 3 bay leaves

- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 small piece fresh ginger, grated
- ½ cup sultanas (optional but very traditional)
- 2 tbsp cake flour mixed with a little water (to thicken sauce)
- 2 tbsp cooking oil
- Salt to taste

Method

• **Prepare and fry the fish:** Wash the fish pieces and pat them dry. Season the flour with salt and pepper and lightly coat the fish in the flour mixture. Heat oil in a pan and fry the fish until golden brown and cooked through. Remove and place on paper towel to drain excess oil.

• **Cook the onions:** Heat two tablespoons of oil in a large pot. Add the sliced onions and cook gently until soft and translucent, about ten minutes. Avoid browning the onions as they should remain soft and slightly sweet.



• **Make the sauce:** Add the garlic, ginger, curry powder, turmeric, coriander, mustard seeds, cumin seeds and bay leaves to the onions. Stir briefly until fragrant. Pour in

the vinegar and water, then add the sugar and sultanas. Allow the mixture to simmer for about ten minutes so the flavours develop.

• **Thicken the sauce:** Stir the flour-and-water mixture well and slowly add it to the simmering sauce while stirring. The sauce should become slightly thick and glossy but still pourable.

• **Layer the fish:** Place a layer of fried fish in a glass or enamel dish. Spoon a generous amount of the onion and sauce mixture over the fish. Continue layering fish and sauce until everything is used, ensuring the fish is well covered.

• **Let it mature:** Allow the dish to cool completely, then cover and refrigerate for two to three days before serving. This resting period allows the flavours to develop properly.

Voorliefde vir perde maak deure oop vir drie van Mamre

COURTNEY ARENDSE

Drie jong perd-entoesiaste van Mamre het onlangs na Johannesburg gevlieg vir 'n opwindende geleentheid in die televisiebedryf.

Tammy-Lee Krieling, Zyron Hare en Mogammat Davids is gekies om as ekstras te verskyn in die televisiereeks *Shaka iLembe*, vervaardig deur *Bomb Shelter Film Company*. Die geleentheid vir die drie jongmense is grootliks as gevolg van hul voorliefde en ervaring met perde. Hul agtergrond in ruitersakeiwiteite het hulle 'n natuurlike keuse gemaak vir die tonele. Die persoon wie hierdie ervaring moontlik gemaak het, is Oscar Pick, wie al vir baie jare betrokke is by die ontwikkeling van jong ruiters in Mamre. Pick, wie die grootste deel van sy lewe rondom perde deurgebring het, sê dat perdry nogaltyd vir hom tweedenaatuur was. "Ek het geleer perdry nog voordat

ek kon loop. Om geleenthede soos hierdie vir jong mense van Mamre te kan skep, beteken vir my baie." Hy glo inisiatiewe wat op vaardighede soos perdry fokus, bou nie net selfvertroue nie, maar kan ook geleenthede skep wat baie verder strek as wat jongmense ooit sou kon dink.

Die drie jongmense het die geleentheid gehad om die lewe op 'n professionele filmstel eerstehands te ervaar en te sien hoe 'n groot televisiereeks vervaardig word. Van interaksie met die produksiespan tot die unieke belewenis van die omvang van 'n groot reeks soos *Shaka iLembe*, het die ervaring vir hulle waardevolle insig in die vermaaklikheidsbedryf gebied.

Two Atlantis learners join Junior City Council

MONIQUE HANSEN



- Montayo Kleinsmith (far left) and Carl Loff

The City of Cape Town has officially welcomed its new group of Junior City Councillors after a record-breaking number of young people applied for the leadership programme.

A total of 929 applications were received this year, with only 50 learners from schools across the metro ultimately selected, including two from Atlantis. The successful candidates, together with their parents, attended an orientation session on Saturday, 7 March 2026, marking the start of their year-long journey in the Junior City Council (JCC). The programme gives young people an opportunity to learn how local government works and to gain insight into the role municipalities play in communities. Cape Town remains the only municipality in South Africa running a Junior City Council programme of this nature. Through workshops, discussions and practical experiences, participants will develop leadership skills, build confidence, and learn how to contribute positively to their communities.

Carl Loff (17), from Robinvale High School, said he applied to the JCC with hopes to broaden his experience in social engagement

and interaction with others. "This new environment will take me out of my comfort zone, and strengthen my interpersonal skills. I hope to bring the skill of self-awareness into schools, because that is key to understanding what you want out of life and how to help others with their development," Carl explained.

Another learner, Montayo Kleinsmith (15), from Atlantis Secondary School, said he joined the JCC because he values service. Serving others is something he believes in deeply, and he believes that young people should play an active role in shaping their communities. "I hope to contribute to projects that bring the council closer to communities and help young people feel heard. I also want to grow as a leader by learning more about teamwork and how local government works in practice. In my community, I would like to focus on humanitarian, educational, and environmental initiatives, especially by working with schools to create positive change," he said.

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Romeo has his eye on national colours



BENJAMIN SMITH

Romeo Andrews stormed to victory in the under-23 men's 200m final at this year's Western Province Championships, which took place in Cape Town earlier this month.

Going up against some of the province's top athletes, Andrews has earned himself a spot in this year's Western Province ASA team with his best finishing times of 10.5 seconds and 21.1 seconds in the 100m and 200m events, respectively. With gold around his neck, Andrews now sets his sights on the National Championships, which will take place in Pretoria from 26 to 28 March.

The 21-year-old Andrews began his athletics journey when he was just six years old and started taking sprinting seriously when he was

in Grade 9. He grew up in Mamre, attended Proteus High School, and currently lives in Atlantis. He runs for the Mamre Athletic Club and hopes to study education in the near future while still focusing on his senior athletics career.

Andrews credits his father as the person who most encouraged him to pursue athletics. 'My dad inspired me the most. I always wanted to be faster than him, and he told me the day I can beat him is the day I'll be ready,' said Andrews. He hopes to be the first athlete from Atlantis to get his South African colours, and the nationals are one step closer to achieving that dream. His message to young athletes in the community is one of dedication and faith. 'I'll tell athletes in Atlantis to train hard because there is a lot of talent and to have faith and let God lead,' Andrews said

His coach, Bronique Karolus, praises Andrews' ambition and level-headedness. 'Romeo is the type of person who always goes for the impossible, and most of the time he is not fazed by any task. I commend him for trying to understand and grasp the physics concepts that I teach him on a daily basis in order to

run faster. His goals now lie with the National Championships in Pretoria, where he will look to run even faster than he has already done,' Karolus added. She encourages the community's best talent to join the sport.

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