

Headlines on North Coast

Education trust fund for SAPS

The SA Police Service (SAPS) plans to launch an education trust fund for children of police who have died in the line of duty. Many police officers have lost their lives while they were still young and had served the force for less than ten years. This means that the pension payout and policy benefits to the deceased's family are not enough to sustain the widow, widower or the children, Police Minister Nathi Mthethwa said. The trust fund is planned to be fully operational by January 2011.

First Zulu dictionary in 40 years

A new Zulu-English dictionary has been published. Zulus are South Africa's largest ethnic group, accounting for 24 percent of the population, and their language is the most commonly spoken home language in the country, although English is generally used in business and politics. More than 2.8 million pupils take Zulu as a language subject at school, according to Oxford University Press. The dictionary would help pupils and teachers keep up with the changes in the language.

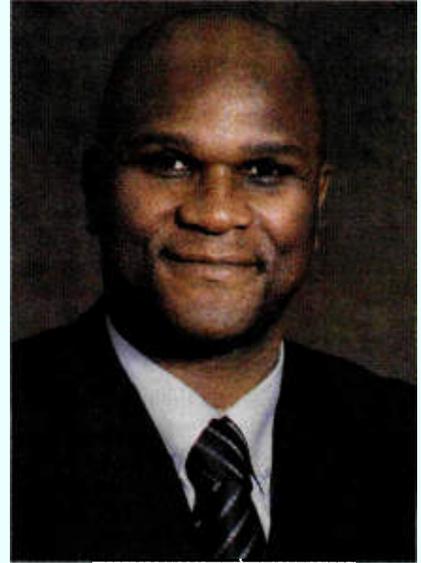
Exams have started

Every pupil in Grade 12 will receive papers as the KZN Education Department has started distributing over 150 000 supplementary questions and answer papers in key subjects to help pupils prepare. The trial exams have been scheduled for this week. The National Senior Certificate examination will not be postponed, it will continue as planned.

Price hike, warns Eskom

Eskom may have to pay more for its coal meaning an increase in the cost of electricity generation. The low quality of coal and its transportation remain critical challenges.

Eskom has spoken to mining companies to get hold of better grade coal. The company warned that this would cost more which would ultimately translate into higher electricity prices for consumers.



Minister Nathi Mthethwa

Cemetery recycling

EThekweni Municipality plans on going ahead with cemetery recycling. The reason for this is because there is insufficient space to accommodate the increasing number of burials. The exhumation of remains which have been buried in the 1940s and 50s will take place and then moved to small plots, to free up space. Communities are urged to find alternatives to burials as Durban is running out of space for new cemeteries.

Stricter smoking rules

Stricter smoking laws will be introduced. From as early as next year smoking within a five metre radius of a building will be illegal. Individuals and companies found guilty of breaking the law could be fined up to R50 000. The amendment is aimed at trying to deter people from smoking because of the many health risks it poses for smokers and non-smokers alike.

