

## Maxi's Nelspruit is sizzling!

**NELSPRUIT** - The quick-service sit down family restaurant, Maxi's Nelspruit, recently had a change of ownership. Now, in the capable hands of Bernice Lourens and Yoné du Plessis, who have also been the franchisees of Maxi's White River for the past 11 months, the restaurant is set to continue to meet the needs of the community.

'Becoming franchisees of an existing store can be challenging as not only do you have to sustain a proactive management approach with the current staff members, but you also have to maintain relationships and retain customer trust. Both Bernice and Yoné understand these elements as their Maxi's White River store continues to thrive, and we have no doubt that they will continue to serve quality, wholesome meals at Maxi's Nelspruit,' says Christo Calitz, CEO of Taste Holdings Food Division.

'This great opportunity presented itself and we are very fortunate to have the Maxi's team who believe in us and are willing to support our business decisions financially. The restaurant business is very hard work and requires a lot of passion and dedication, but the satisfied customers which become regulars and later even friends make it all worthwhile.'

The Maxi's White River store

considers itself one of many key benefactors to the community and as such is very involved with local schools. Yoné says that similarly their goal for Maxi's Nelspruit is not just to be a trendy restaurant, but to be part of the community and get involved in events and projects wherever they can.

With a clearly defined strategy, Maxi's Nelspruit will endeavour to provide the community with an inviting casual dining experience, encouraging them to meet at Maxi's.



**Bernice Lourens & Yoné du Plessis in their Maxi's Nelspruit store.**

## Hoedspruit companies come to the rescue

**HOEDSPRUIT** - The Leopard Conservation Project (LCP) received a call from the Nature Conservation authorities that a leopard had been trapped in an illegal cage trap and needed urgently to be rescued. They were not sure how long it had been in the cage, and as these animals dehydrate extremely quickly because of stress, the situation was desperate.

Fred Berrangé immediately contacted Sarie van Vuuren at *Kruger2Canyon News* to help find a sponsor to assist with the costs in order to rescue the animal. Within a few minutes Lizelle Erasmus and Estelle Smith from Agripark (Elle Property Group) kindly contributed R2000 towards the fuel costs.

Fred immediately left Hoedspruit on the 1000km round trip to Lephalele to fetch the leopard. Unfortunately the leopard could not be released immediately due to its injuries and had to be brought back to the Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre (HESC) to be treated and monitored after its life threatening ordeal. Once this leopard is strong enough to come out of the hospital at HESC, he will be released into a newly upgraded temporary holding facility.

Several Hoedspruit companies

this facility. Martin, Tracy, Gerrit-Jan and Michael from Zandspruit Bush & Aero Estate, as well as Bertus from Lowveld Building Supplies and Chris from Hoedspruit Steel, got the facility perfectly upgraded at no cost to LCP or HESC.

A leopard previously rescued by LCP and treated at HESC was put into the upgraded facility on August 17. The new arrival will hopefully make a speedy recovery from the hospital after which the upgraded facility will be used to rehabilitate it.



**Mike Cowden, Bertus Myburgh, Fred Berrangé, Lente Roode, and Martin & Tracy den Dunnen.**

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