

Watching every (Green) drop

uMhlathuze has proudly become one of very few municipalities around the country to attain three Green Drop scores for three of its five waste water treatment plants. Officials involved in ensuring the proper handling of waste water in the City celebrated their milestone achievement at the Mzingazi Water Works recently together with councillors and business partners, WSSA and Mhlathuze Water.

Manager: Scientific Services, Neeran Maharaj, explained the Green Drop system by explaining that the Green Drop was started in 2009 to assess the standard by which municipalities deal with their waste water.

"That year we scored an average of 72% but the criteria for measurement had not yet been fully developed. "

'In 2011 we improved our score and attained 83% and this past year, while our overall average was 84,9%, three of our systems – Ngwelezane, Vulindlela and Nseleni - each achieved above 90%, which is the threshold for attaining Green Drop status," said Maharaj.

The scores for the systems were: Ngwelezane – 91,18%, Vulindlela – 95,99%, Nseleni – 90,74%, eSikhaleni – 86,73% and Empangeni – 77,2%. Maharaj said that while Empangeni and eSikhaleni scores were still below 90%, they had shown an improvement from 72% over the past four years.

Head of section, Zukiswa Mbolekwa-Pupuma, commented that of the 852 waste water plants in the country, only 32 have achieved Green Drop status: three of these being awarded to uMhlathuze.



Continued on Page 2



Celebrating a job well done! The Scientific Services team together with Waste Water systems officials, WSSA, Mhlathuze Water and councillors.

Continued from Page 1

"This achievement is all about teamwork. It was a joint effort between our officials and our service provider partners, WSSA. The combined team went above and beyond to achieve this high standard, and while it is wonderful to have reached it, it must be maintained," said Mbolekwa-Pupuma.

In her address, Portfolio Committee Chairman, Councillor Silondile Mkhize said that so often one sees negative publicity about the Municipality but the Green Drop achievement shows that in many aspects the uMhlathuze Municipality is leading and winning top honours.

"This also shows that our officials are working hard and this Green Drop status is a reward for their hard work. This should be an encouragement to other departments within the Municipality to also work hard to achieve top scores in their fields. As local government we are at the coalface of service delivery and achieving top scores in their respective fields is an indication that departments are doing what is expected from them. This Green Drop achievement shows that the Municipality and its people are healthy," said Cllr Mkhize.

Thanking WSSA for their commitment towards achieving the Green Drop status for three of the City's five systems, Councillor Mkhize pointed out that four of the waste water systems – eSikhaleni, Ngwelezane, eNseleni and Vulindlela – were inherited from the Department of Water Affairs and funding is still provided by the department for the maintenance and upkeep of these systems. The Empangeni system is the oldest of the five and was inherited from the erstwhile Empangeni TLC, following the merger of Richards Bay and Empangeni, and receives no funding from government.

"Council needs to allocate funds to address maintenance and up keep issues at this plant so that it too can achieve Green Drop status," said Cllr Mkhize.



Cllr Mkhize presents a gift of appreciation to Zandile Marete (Chief Water Quality) for her input towards the Green Drop status. Gifts were also presented to Sifundo Gwala (Chief Scientist) and Slindile Mbhele (Scientific Services Administrator).

Kuhlongozwa Isikhungo Sokuhweba EMandlazini

UMnyango wokuThuthukiswa kweDolobha usuhlonze indawo engama 9 300 amasikwemitha engaba yisikhungo sokuhweba eMandlazini. Lendawo ingakwazi ukufaka isitolo sendawo, indawo yokuma nokolayishela amakhumbi kanye nendawo yokuhwebela osomabhezini abangabhalisile.

Lesisiza esiku Erf 13644 eMandlazini singeseMandlazini Community Trust kanti umbiko obalula isidingo sokuthuthukisa lendawo sewathulelwa leMandlazini Community Trust.

Kwabe sekuvunyelwana ukuba umbiko olandelayo ngenqubekelaphambili nobalula imininingwane yesiza esingatholakala ukuze kusungulwe lezikhungo ezilandelayo wethulelwe iMandlazini Community Trust kanye noMkhandlu-Dolobha:

- Yindawo yokuhweba noma yezitolo
- Yirenke yamatekisi
- Umtapo-lwazi
- YisiKhungo sentsha kanye
- neNkundla yezemidlalo

E: *The Department of City Development has identified a possible commercial node of about 9 300 square metres in Mandlazini Village that could accommodate, among other uses, a neighbourhood convenience shop, a formal minibus holding and loading area and informal trading areas.*

Tourism staff gear up for 2014 uMhlathuze Beach Festival

The City's Tourism staff are hard at work with stakeholders and other Municipal departments to organise the uMhlathuze Beach Festival 2014, which will take place on Saturday, 13 December and Sunday, 14 December at Alkantstrand Beach.

The Festival is an annual event and is a great way to highlight the City as a tourist destination, showcase the City's Blue Flag beach and provide safe, family entertainment for residents and visitors alike. Audiences can expect live music from local and national artists and djs as well as fun and games at the beach. Children of all ages will be well catered for with jumping castles, inflatables and skateboard games.

Entrance is free and families and visitors are invited and encouraged to make the most of this exciting event.

City to take urgent action at Alkantstrand



The Executive Committee has approved funding in the amount of R7,5 million for medium term emergency shoreline protection at Alkantstrand Beach to be undertaken by rehabilitation specialists in shoreline protection.

This follows an Executive Committee meeting at the end of October where councillors expressed concern about dune erosion, damaged infrastructure and debris on the beach caused by recent high winds and rough sea conditions. They resolved that the restoration of Alkantstrand Beach be urgently investigated in time for the December holiday season.

The project entails the placing of geo-bags to serve as a shoreline defence and construction will commence as soon as environmental approval has been received. The Municipality is hopeful that the scheduled construction period of 30 days will see the beach ready for the influx of bathers in December.

The bags are susceptible to UV degradation and abrasion from the surf zone and will, therefore, be used as a 'sleeping defence' and placed at the landward end of the beach and covered by sand. A bidim filter layer will be used to prevent the sediment from being washed out from behind the geo-bag wall.

At the Municipality's request, Transnet has also reinstated dredging activities in Richards Bay, which will improve the situation in the short term. Dredging has not taken place since March 2014 due to an oil pollution incident at the Port and Transnet has had to re-

apply to the Department of Environmental Affairs for permission to dredge due to the present condition of the beaches.

For a more permanent solution, Exco has recommended that the City's Sports and Recreation section enlist the services of hydraulics engineers at the Council for Science and Industrial Research (CSIR) to investigate the options available to the Municipality.

Permanent solutions to curb similar incidents of erosion in future include the installation of specialised geotubes, similar to those used at Durban's Amanzimtoti beach, to stabilise the dune and to build up the beach profile. Another option is to develop alternative bathing areas.

It is anticipated that the project, which has not been budgeted for, will be extremely costly and the City will be making a formal application to the National Department of Environmental Affairs for funding assistance as soon as it has a clear indication of what the project will involve and the cost thereof.

In the meantime, the tender for the Phase 2 and 3 expansion of the Alkantstrand Beach recreation area into the Newark Beach node has been cancelled by the Municipality due to insufficient funds on the budget. The Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) provided funding of R7 million for Phase 2 and 3 of the project, however, the amount tendered by the only responsive tenderer was more than double this amount.

City to investigate improvements to cemetery services

Investigations into the improvement of the City's cemetery services and the related costing are to be undertaken and submitted to Council for consideration and implementation during the 2015/2016 financial year following a report on the cemeteries which served before the Executive Committee in October.

To facilitate more consumer friendly operations, Council is to consider providing 'one stop' facilities within each respective community to overcome the inconvenience of the public having to travel between the cemeteries and the centralised municipal offices in Richards Bay to make payment for a burial. However the decision will be guided by the safety and security of staff and the community as well as Council's exposure to criminal activities such as armed robberies, theft, fraud and corruption. The costs associated with personnel and office infrastructure will also be taken into account.

In addition the report outlined the life expectancy of the five cemeteries for which Council is directly responsible, namely:

- Richards Bay Cemetery
- eSikhaleni Cemetery
- Old Empangeni Cemetery
- Vulindlela Cemetery
- and eNseleni Cemetery.

This was achieved by looking at the historical interments undertaken at each cemetery over the past two years, as follows:

Burial statistics for uMhlathuze's cemeteries

	1 July 2012 - 30 June 2013	1 July 2013 - 30 June 2014
eSikhaleni Cemetery	354	335
Richards Bay Cemetery	323	322
eNseleni Cemetery	48	40
Vulindlela Cemetery	0	0
Old Empangeni Cemetery	4	1
Total burials	729	698

The eSikhaleni Cemetery is relatively new having been officially opened in July 2010. The first phase development of 8 hectares provides capacity for about 10 800 graves. Based on the existing burial rate, the first phase has a remaining life expectancy of about 27 years. The remaining portion of 23 hectares is still to be development and would increase the lifespan of the cemetery to about 80 years, although this is

expected to decrease in line with the growth of the population and mortality increases.

The Richards Bay Cemetery has 4 992 graves available. Considering the existing mortality rate and the fact that eNseleni Cemetery is reaching capacity, the facility has a lifespan of 13 years. However, recent extensions to the cemetery will provide an additional 8 852 gravesites and increase the capacity to 36 years. Additional developments will be undertaken timeously to ensure continued burials.

Capacity has been reached at the Vulindlela and Old Empangeni Cemeteries, with the exception of a few reserved graves. Burials from Vulindlela are accommodated at the eSikhaleni Cemetery while burials from Empangeni and surrounds are accommodated at the uThungulu Regional Cemetery as well as the Richards Bay and eSikhaleni Cemeteries.

The Empangeni Regional Cemetery, opposite the uThungulu Waste site, is situated within the Municipal area but is maintained by the uThungulu District Municipality and caters for the regional burial needs of the district.

The eNseleni Cemetery has only 48 graves available and should reach capacity within the coming year. Planning processes have been activated to identify an alternative site to cater for future burials from this area. Should capacity be reached, interments will be directed to the Richards Bay Cemetery, which is still within reasonable and easy access by the community.

The Department of Community Services, with the assistance of the Department of City Development, is in the process of identifying possible land that can be earmarked for cemeteries in the Matshana, eNseleni and Ngwelezane areas. However detailed evaluations regarding the legislative requirements, geotechnical conditions and land ownership must be conducted before a final decision can be made.

Challenges relating to the operations of the City's cemeteries include uncontrolled access and exits, illegal erection of tombstones and roaming animals.

It was also reported that proposals for the management and establishment of a crematorium within the City will be advertised in due course. The Municipality has conducted this exercise on several occasions in the past without any success or interest from external service providers. However, the establishment of such a facility offers a number of benefits especially where cemetery space is in short supply.

IDolobha Lisiza Ukukhulisa Osomabhizinisi



USomlomo woMkhandlu-Dolobha, uKhansela uMvuseni Mnqayi, namaKhansela uPhikelakhe Ntanzi (weWodi 28), noMfundo Mthenjane (weWodi 22), benoSihlalo weKomidi leNtsha yeDolobha uSkhumbuzo Mbaso, benikezela umfaniswano onikelwe ngu Masipala kumalungu oMzamo Wethu Youth Co-Operative.

Inhlanganisela phakathi kwemikhakha yomithathu kahulumeni isiveze amathuba okuba osomabhizinisi bakhulise amabhizinisi abo.

Eyodwa yemisebenzi yaloluhlobo yilowo osandukusungulwa i-Umzamo Wethu Youth Agricultural Co-Operative yabantu abasha abayi15 base-Empangeni/Ngwelezane abanethuba lokuba ngabakhiqizi yokusamifino emisha abanohlonze.

INxenywe yokuSekelwa kwamaBhizinisi, iziMakethe nokuVakasha yoMnyango wokuThuthukiswa kweDolobha kuMasipala waseMhlathuze ihlonze umhlaba oseSigcemeni 28 obhekene neDumisane Makhanye Village njengendawo elungele lomsebenzi wezolimo kanti uMzamo Wethu njengenhlangano yobambiswano ihlonzwe njengelungele ukuthola usizo nokusekelwa.

INhlangano yeNtuthuko kuZwelonke (NDA) nayo yenza ucwaningo ngalomsebenzi yabe isinika uxhaso olubalelwa kuR750 000 ngokohlobo lokwakha izakhiwo eziwumhubhe ezimbili, ikhonteyina yokugcina impahla yokusebenza iphephile, impahla yokulima, izithombo, uqeqesho, izimpawu, ukuxhunywa kwamanzi nogesi.

Uxhaso lukaMasipala kwaba ukuhlinzeka ngomfaniswano, impahla yokugqoka yezokuphepha kumalungu alenhlango olubalelwa kuma R18 600 kube kubandakanya amabhantshi, ama-ovaloli kanye nezikibha, izigqoko, amanethi, amagilavu, izibuko zokuphepha namabhuzu okuphepha.

Ekhuluma emcimbini wokunikezwa komfaniswano, uKhansela uPhikelakhe Ntanzi weWodi 28 wathi lomsebenzi uhambisana ncimishi nohlelo lukahulumeni lokukhuthaza ukuqasheka kwentsha yalelizwe.

USandile Shangase owaqokwa yiNDA njengomqeqeshi waleliqembu wathi amakhansela eDolobha aneqhaza elibalulekile okumele alibambe ekuthuthukisweni okunempumelelo kwentsha kuMasipala.

Wathi, "Ukukhuthaza nokwesekela okuqhamuka kumakhansela ikakhulukazi mayelana nesimo sokuziphatha kwentsha ukuqiniseka ukuthi iyaziqhelanisa nezidakamizwa nobugebengu kubalulekile."

E: *The newly formed uMzamo Wethu Youth Agricultural Co-operative, comprising 15 young people from the greater Empangeni/Ngwelezane area, has been granted the opportunity to grow their own business through a joint venture between the Municipality and the National Development Agency.*

Office of the Speaker welcomes a new manager



Mr Magic Zitho Motha has been newly appointed as the Manager in the Office of the Speaker. With a background in the Community Health profession, he has a heart for the working class and poor masses, Batho Pele principles and service provision.

"I enjoy working with people and humbling oneself," says Magic, who is focused on creating an effective office to respond to the challenges of the communities, coordinating programmes to address the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality as well as preserving the integrity of the community by ensuring that residents receive the best possible service.

City creates tourism awareness among learners



Vanessa le Roux (Umhambi Lodge), Stanley Mbatha (Acting Deputy Municipal Manager: City Development), Zanempilo Radebe (Three Cities Imvubu Lodge), Sinenhlanhla Mbatha (3rd place; Mevamhlope High School), Cllr Nicholas Hlope, Pretty Ngubane (Boardwalk), Blessing Khumalo (2nd place; Mningi High School), Michaela Andrews (1st place; Richards Bay Christian School) and Mayor Elphas Mbatha.

The Department of City Development has presented prizes, certificates and trophies to those learners and schools who participated in the tourism competition, which was held to raise awareness of tourism among learners in the City in recognition of national Tourism Month.

The competition was won by Michaela Andrews of Richards Bay Christian School, with Blessing Khumalo of Mningi High School in second place and Sinenhlanhla Mbatha of Mevamhlope High School in third place. All participants received certificates of appreciation.

Sibonisile Maduma of the Department's Business Support, Markets and Tourism Section explained that the competition aimed to create an awareness and interest in tourism. Learners were encouraged to apply the knowledge they have learnt at school by developing a travel itinerary for a tourist visiting the City of uMhlatuze. The judging criteria took into consideration the information provided in the itinerary, the presentation and the practicality of the itinerary.

She said that apart from attracting tourists from other areas to the City, it is also important that residents become local tourists and explore the various attractions and accommodation establishments that area available. "Why should our residents go to the South Coast on holiday when we have a Blue Flag beach right here in Richards Bay?" she asked.

Ms Maduma spoke of the need to become "Proudly uMhlatuze" and said: "Our salaries in uMhlatuze are higher than Msunduzi (Pietermaritzburg) yet the residents of Msunduzi spend their money in the Pietermaritzburg locality whereas in uMhlatuze we go outside of our City to spend. We want visitors from outside but we would also like to see our locals spending more here and visiting the attractions we have."

Mayor Elphas Mbatha echoed these sentiments adding that the hotels in uMhlatuze "compare with the best in the world" and that the area has a lot to offer as a destination. He also shared Council's vision to one day develop Naval Island to attract visitors to the City.

He also congratulated the learners in taking interest in the tourism sector. "This is a sector that still has to be developed and there are lots of business opportunities available. You, as learners, have the opportunity to open door in the tourism sector," he said.

In closing Acting Deputy Municipal Manager: City Development, Stanley Mbatha handed gifts of appreciation to the sponsors of the competition, the Boardwalk Shopping Centre, Umhambi Lodge and Three Cities Imvubu Lodge.

IDolobha Lizihlanganisa noHlelo loMhlahlandlela WeOSS

ONobhala beNqaba yokuSiza umphakathi ukulwa nezingqinamba olubizwa ngeWar Room kanye nabaSebenzi bokuThuthukisa uMphakashi abamelele yileso nalesosigceme eDolobheni laseMhlathuze bathamela izifundo ze-Operation Sukuma Sakhe ezazisekupheleni kuka-October ezazibanjelwe emaHovisi kaMasipala eRichards Bay lapho babekhonjiswa khona ulwazi ngendlela entsha yokubika okusewumhlahlandlela.

I-Operation Sukuma Sakhe wuhlelo lwesifundazwe ngaphanbilini dwalwaziwa njengoHlelo lukaNdunankulu lokuHlinzeka imiSebenzi (Premier's Flagship Programme) okuthi ngalo kube nobuxhumana phakathi kwezinhlaka neminyango kahulumeni nemiphakathi ngenhloso yokuba uhulumeni ahlinzeke ngendlela efanele izidingonqangi emiphakathini kuthi ngale yondlela kunqandwe ububha, ukwesweleka kwemisebenzi, ubugebengu, ingculazi, isifo sofuba, ukusetshenziswa kwezidakamizwa, kokunye.

IDolobha laseMhlathuze lingelinye kwamathathu elikhethwe ukuba libe yinqalabutho yokuhlala indlela ngaloluhlobo lokubika noMasipala wesiFundo wase-Ugu ogwini oluse Ningizimu kanye noMasipala waseHarry Gwala.

Lezifundo zisize ukwambulela laboNobhala naBaSebenzi beNtuthuko yoMphakathi ngezinto eziyizinkomba zezinto ezixegayo kuleso nalesosigceme okumele zihlonzwe bese kuthathwe izinyathelo ezifanele. USizakele Zuma, onguMqeqeshi we-OSS esiFundeni sasoThungulu wathi, "Njengesibonelo, uma uMnyango wezeMpilo uthola ubunzima ngokusabalalisa amajazi abakhwenyane noma amakhondomu endaweni ethile, kumele sibuze ukuthi singasiza kanjani ukuze kusizakale umphakathi wakuleyondawo."

Izifundo zabuye zagcizelela ngokubhekela udaba ngalunye nanokuhlonza izidingonqangi eziyinhlanganisela ezingasiza umphakathi uNksz. uZuma wakhuluma ngendlela engasetshenziswa ukuthatha udaba noma inkinga luyiswe emnyangweni othintekayo omelelwe ekomidini kanye nokuphathwa ngendlela ukusebenza kweNqaba yokuSiza ngalendlela entsha yokubika.

E: *War Room Secretaries and Community Development Workers (CDWs), representing each ward in the City of uMhlathuze, attended Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) training at the Richards Bay Civic Centre at the end of October where they were shown the newly introduced monthly reporting template, which is being piloted by the City.*



USizakele Zuma, onguMqeqeshi we-Operation Sukuma Sakhe wesiFunda soThungulu kanye noNobhala beNqaba yoSizo ababethamele izifundo.

John Ross Eco Junction granted access control

Council has approved an application from MTA Bloc Architects on behalf of the developers of the new John Ross Eco Junction, Liberty Ltd, for the introduction of access control at four points of the development to create a safe environment for investors and their clients.

According to the application the developer proposes to construct four guardhouses on the municipal verge to provide visible security to each park on either side of the John Ross Parkway.

The intention, at night, is to close the roads off to secure the park and there will be security personnel at each gatehouse to ensure people are able to enter at any time. This would provide for any emergencies.

Conditions of the approval are that a Property Owners Association is formed, which must be responsible for the

administration, operation and maintenance of the fencing, access control and gate houses.

The Property Owners Association will be required to lease the land from Council on which the proposed guard houses with boom gates will be constructed. Similarly all costs, including maintenance of the gate houses and perimeter fencing to be erected, will be for the Property Owners Association.

Building plans of the proposed guard houses and relevant structures are to be submitted to the Municipality for approval prior to the construction thereof and right-of-way servitudes are to be registered in favour of the local authority over the access points, whereby access will be allowed for Council vehicles and emergency vehicles or other service providers.

The developer of the John Ross Eco Junction is also allowed to market the project based on the proposed access control principle.

Holiday energy saving tips



Before going on holiday and leaving your home vacant it is important to remember your responsibility to conserve electricity and switch off non-essential power guzzlers before going away.

In the lead up to going away on holiday it is advisable to:

- Start using up all the perishables in your fridge and freezer as the bigger the load the harder these appliances have to work to maintain the desired temperature, thereby consuming more electricity.
- Replace conventional outdoor lights with motion sensor lights for security. These use less electricity because they only switch on when the sensor is triggered.
- To give the appearance of someone being at home ask a trustworthy neighbour or friend to switch on one or two lights at night while you are away rather than leaving lights to burn in an empty house for the duration of your holiday.
- Fix leaky taps as allowing water, especially hot water, to leak down the drain is very costly.
- Unplug appliances such as computers and washing machines as appliances still draw a small amount of energy when there are plugged in – even if they are not switched on.
- Check that backup batteries for electric fencing and intruder detection systems are in good working order.

The day before you depart:

- Empty your fridge and freezer. Switch them off so that they can defrost and not use any electricity while you are away.
- Turn off your geyser so that electricity isn't unnecessarily used to keep water hot.
- Switch off all power outlets and unplug appliances.
- Switch off the oven.
- Switch off air-conditioning and fans.
- Switch off the water and power supply to water features and fountains in your garden.

At your holiday destination use the same energy-saving tactics that you would in your own home:

- Switch off appliances that are not being used.
- Don't leave lights on in unoccupied rooms.
- Open windows and doors to cool down interiors and use the air-conditioner only when necessary.
- Take a shower rather than a bath.
- Enjoy the outdoors by cooking your food on the braai and eating meals on the patio before sunset.
- Don't open the fridge and freezer unnecessarily as this causes them to use more electricity to maintain the desired temperature.
- Don't use hot water for tasks that can be done with cold water.
- Don't leave taps running.

Airport tariff increases

Council approved the increase of the aeronautical tariffs and passenger fees at the Richards Bay Airport for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015, which represent a 7,8% increase and keep Richards Bay tariffs significantly lower than airports of a similar size."

The tariffs include landing and parking charges, which are calculated according to the weight of the aircraft, as well as passenger service charges, an after hour service charge, air traffic service (ATS) fees and approach fees.

According to the new tariffs an Airlink BA41, with a maximum take-off weight of 10 886kg, is charged a landing fee of R943,08 and air traffic fee of R1 307,11. The SAX Dash 8-Q400, which has a maximum take-off weight of 27 330kg, has a landing fee of R1 934,01 and an air traffic fee of R2444 53.

In their motivation to Council, the Richards Bay Airport Company said that airport operating costs have been above inflation in recent years and the aviation industry has been under strain due to increased operating costs, reduced passenger numbers and additional expenditure to comply with new regulatory requirements. The Company believes that an increase in line with current aviation inflation would significantly impact on operations at the Richards Bay Airport, especially relating to airline operations.

Register on the City's short-code SMS system

The public is reminded of the new short-code SMS system implemented by the City of uMhlathuze in its Finance Department. Please update your cell numbers to ensure that you receive future messages from the Finance Department. These messages include credit control warning messages before your electricity is disconnected or before your water is restricted. It is also planned that in future, updates of your monthly account could also be sent via SMS.

To ensure success of these initiatives it is important that you update your cell number with the Municipality by sending an SMS with your account number to 44310. A standard SMS rate, as charged by your network, applies.

Your cell number will then be recorded on your municipal account profile and you will be able to receive the SMS messages.

UMkhandlu-Dolobha Uxazulula Izikhalo Zabawebeni baseTaxi City

UMkhandlu-Dolobha unqume ukuba ungagudluki kwiNqubomgomo yawo yokuHweba okuNgabhalisiwe okuyiwona olawula ukuthuthukiswa nokubhekela umkhakha wokuhweba okungabhalisiwe kuMasipala kulandela uhla lwezikhalo ezaziphuma kubawebeni abakulomkhakha abahweba ematafuleni asandukwakhiwa eTaxi City eRichards Bay.

Izikhalo ezibhalwe phansi zanikwa uMasipala, okwathi emva kwalokho amaKhasela neziphathimandla babiza umhlango nabawebeni basemgwaqweni ngenhloso yokulalela izikhalo zabo nokuba kutholwe isixazululo esasiyokwemukeleka kuzozombili izinhlangothi.

Izikhalo ikakhulukazi zazimayelana nemali yokurenta noma ukuqasha indawo yokuhweba, abawebeni bethi ngenkathi kwethulwa ukuqala ukusebenza kwalendawo, uNgqongqoshe wayethe ngeke bakhokhe ntela. Abawebeni babezwakalisa ukungakunambithisi ukukhokha imali yokurenta bekhazala ngokuthi uMasipala wayethi uzobaxosha lababawebeni ababehluleka ukukhokha irenti. Babenganeme futhi ngeziphathimandla zikaMasipala ezazilokhu zibakhumbuzisa ngezinqubomgomo nemitheshwana yoMkhandlu.

NgokweNqubomgomo yokuHweba okuNgabhalisiwe eyamukelwa nguMkhandlu ngoMarch 2014, uMkhandlu wawuzofaka ukukhokha kwemali yerente kancane kancane ngenyanga kuye nokuthi iZinga leNtengo yabaThengi (Consumer Price Index) likhuphuka kangakanani kusukela ngomhlaka 1 July njalo ngonyaka. Lenqubomgomo ikubeka kucace ukuthi umgomo werente usetshenziswe kumatafula angama 300 aseRichards Bay Taxi City, Empangeni A Renke nase-Empangeni B Renke.

Okubalulekile wukuthi inqubomgomo yeRente yabaHwebeni baseMgaqweni yethulwa kubawebeni base Taxi City ngo-August 2013 lapho babechazelwa ngawo ngaboMnyango wokuThuthukiswa kweDolobha. Ngaleyonkathi abawebeni bayamukela iNqubomgomo yeRente eyayibalula intela eyokhokha ngabawebeni abadayisa umkhiziqo osheshe wonakale engu R120 ngenyanga noR80 ngenyanga oyokhokha yilabobawebeni abadayisa imikhiziqo engonakali.

Imali yerente ekhokhwa ngabawebeni basemgwaqweni uMasipala uyixhase kakhulu kabi uma kuqhathaniswa nabanye oMasipala abangangoMhlathuze kanti uMkhandlu-Dolobha ukholelwa wukuthi izinsizakalo ezitholwa ngabawebeni zingaphezulu kwemali yerente abayikhokhela uMasipala njengoba bethola amanzi, ugesi, izindawo zokuzikhulula nezindawo zokuhlala amakhasimende abo. Ngokunjalo imali yerente uMasipala uyisebenzisela ukuba izakhiwo zaseTaxi City zihlale zisesimweni esifanelekile. Inqubomgomo yokuhweba okuNgabhalisiwe ibalula ukuthi noma yimuphi umwebeni oehluleka ukukhokha irenti izinyanga ezintathu zilandelana kumele asuswe kulelotafula adayisela kulo kuthi imvume yakhe yokuhweba imiswe.

Inkokhelo yamatafula nokukhishwa kwezimvume zokuhweba kubawebeni kusiza ukuba kubenendlela efanele yokusebenza kuMasipala waseMhlathuze kanti kwenza kubelula ukuba uMnyango wokuThuthukiswa koMphakathi ukwazi ukwenza imitheshwana kaMasipala isebenze ngokufanelekile.

E: Council has resolved to stand by its Informal Trading Policy, which guides the development and management of the informal trading sector within the Municipality, following a list of grievances received from informal traders operating from the newly built market stalls at Richards Bay Taxi City.

Noodhulp-opleiding binnekort deel van uMhlathuze Brandweer, Redding en Noodrampbestuur

Toestemming is onlangs deur die Raad aan uMhlathuze Brandweer, Redding en Noodrampbestuur toegestaan om aansoek te doen vir goedkeuring by die Departement van Arbeid om die brandweer as diensverskaffer vir Noodhulp I, II en III opleiding te akkrediteer, asook die aanstelling van 'n gekwalifiseerde Noodhulpinstrukteur.

Die besluit is gemaak na aanleiding van 'n verslag wat voor die Uitvoerende Komitee gedien het waarin verduidelik is dat die munisipaliteit tans oor geen geakkrediteerde noodhulp diensverskaffer binne die munisipale area beskik nie. In die verlede is gebruik gemaak van 'n privaat diensverskaffer wat die area reeds in Augustus 2014 verlaat het.

Die akkreditasie en aanstelling van 'n Noodhulpinstrukteur sal nie net vir die Munisipaliteit geld spaar nie maar ook addisionele fondse genereer in die sin dat die Munisipaliteit nie net hul eie personeel kan oplei nie maar ook die van ander munisipaliteite, privaat instansies en industrieë.

Die uMhlathuze Brandweer, Redding en Noodrampbestuur is tans 'n geakkrediteerde Brandweer Opleidingsakademie, geakkrediteer deur die SAESI (South African Emergency Services Institute) en LGSETA (Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority).

E: Council has granted permission to the uMhlathuze Fire, Rescue and Disaster Management Services to apply to the Department of Labour for the Fire Brigade to be accredited as a First Aid Level I, II and III training institution and has also approved the appointment of a First Aid Instructor.

Clinics share nutrition information

Eating good nutritious balanced meals, as well as practising good personal hygiene, are important to ensuring one's health.

This was the message to patients visiting the Municipality's Health Clinic in Richards Bay during National Nutrition Day in mid-October.

While having a well-balanced diet is important to maintain overall good health, personal hygiene is critical to the prevention of communicable diseases that can threaten not only personal health but that of communities.

The scourge of the Ebola virus, that is having devastating consequences in central Africa, is a stark reminder that while eating a healthy, well-balanced diet is not sufficient to ensure one's body can fight off diseases. Washing one's hands properly and on a regular basis can help avoid contracting a virus that could threaten one's health.

Should you require more information, visit your nearest clinic for assistance.



Noxolo Sithole from Mbonambi Clinic explains to patients at the Richards Bay Clinic the purpose of educating people about good diet and personal hygiene.



The Richards Bay Clinic hosted talks to visiting patients about good personal hygiene and what constitutes a well-balanced meal including the various food groups – protein (meats); fruit and vegetables; wheat, legumes and grains; dairy; fats and prescribed health supplements.

Richards Bay Clean Air Association Monthly Report: September 2014

SO₂ (Sulphur Dioxide) Guideline Exceedances

There were no measured exceedances of the NEMAQA daily average standard (48ppb), NEMAQA hourly average standard (134ppb). There were Three (3) measured exceedances of the NEMAQA 10 minute average standard (191ppb). These were recorded at Harbour West on 24 and 27 September 2014. The exceedances were attributed to emissions from BHP Billiton and Foskor.

TRS Odour Threshold Exceedances

TRS is emitted by Mondi and is monitored by the RBCAA at the Richards Bay Central Sports Complex in Richards Bay and in eSikhaleni at Tisand Technical High School. There was One (1) measured exceedance of the WHO 30-minute H₂S Guideline (5.0ppb). There were Thirteen (13) measured exceedances of the RBCAA 10-minute Target (4.5ppb). Twelve (12) of the fourteen (14) exceedances were measured at the eSikhaleni station.

PM₁₀ Exceedances

There were Three (3) measured exceedances of the current NEMAQA Daily Standard (120 g/m³). There was Five (5) measured exceedance of the future NEMAQA Daily Standard (75 g/m³). All but 1 of the exceedances occurred on 18 September 2014. The exceedances were recorded at Brackenham, eSikhaleni, Mtunzini, and CBD and were linked to unusually high wind speeds and fires across the region.

Air Quality Complaints

There were Thirty Nine (39) air quality complaints received during September 2014.

For more information contact:

Sandy Camminga (Public Officer)

Tel: 035 -786 0076 Cell: 083 515 2384

Complaints can be logged at: complaints@rbcaa.co.za

Website: www.rbcaa.org.za

Museum hosts retrospective exhibit of Durban artist's works

Well-known local artist, Diamond Bozas introduced Kenyan-born artist Jean Powell at the opening of the retrospective exhibition of her works from over the past 40 years of her career at the uMhlathuze Museum in Empangeni.

Having completed her schooling at St Anne's in Hilton, Jean studied design at the former Natal College in Durban before completing a three-year diploma in Architecture at the Bartlett School of Architecture at the London University College.

She then followed a design curriculum at the Central School of Art and Craft before returning to Kenya where, after a brief period working in an architecture firm, turned to sharing the knowledge she had gained by teaching art first at a prestigious school in Nairobi.

Jean, her husband Terence and two children relocated to Durban where Jean was appointed at the Salisbury Island College teaching fine arts and later joined the University of Durban Westville, the Natal University and the then Natal College of Education.

Serving for over 40 years on the committee of the Natal Art Society (NSA/KZNSA) Jean was involved in numerous exhibitions, proposing, curating and participating and was also a founder member of the Botanical Artists Association of South Africa (BAASA).

As a late participant in the Art South Africa Today group exhibition in 1972, her hastily compiled work 'Rubbish Box' – recreated especially for her current exhibition with wooden pallets decorated with strips of her enamel on metal designs, for which she is best known – not only won her the Philip Frame Prize but was an indication that her concerns were often well ahead of the times.

A number of homes have metal front doors onto which Jean's beautiful designs have been applied in enamel, an art form she successfully experimented with in a dingy factory in Durban's South Coast Road.

Having worked in the design studio of a fabric merchant soon after completing her studies, Jean gained invaluable experience not only in design but also exposure to various printing techniques.

This all stood her in good stead as in later years she established the fabric design course when she moved across from the Salisbury Island College to the Durban Westville University.

Not one to stand still, Jean continued learning and developing new skills in book-binding, calligraphy, etching, lithography and in her work towards her Master's Diploma researched Ikat designs and printing onto silk and creating Kimonos.

"I am no good at sewing, but I love to design fabrics and trying different techniques which is why I started tie-dyeing kimonos," said Jean.

The Jean Powell Retrospective Exhibition will continue its tour around the country in mid-November when the exhibition moves to the Natal Art Gallery in Durban.

To ensure you do not miss out on exciting exhibitions and events at the Museum, the public is invited to make regular visits.



Speaking at the opening of the exhibition, artist Jean Powell gives some insight into her designs.



"Celebrating the work of an artist with the artist is better than doing so after they have gone," said exhibition curator Robert Brusse (left). With him are Museum curator Ildiko Kovacs, artist Jean Powell and lending moral support and a background to the exhibition and the artist is Diamond Bozas.

Clinic Services to be transferred to Province

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health has informed Council of its intention to officially takeover municipal primary health care facilities, or clinics, possibly as early as 1 January 2015, and has not renewed the 2013/2014 Service Level Agreement with the Municipality.

Primary health care functions are supposed to be the responsibility of provinces, metropolitans and possibly district municipalities. However, since 2006 the KZN Department of Health has delegated primary health care responsibility and administration to the City of uMhlathuze and entered into a service level agreement in this regard.

The City is proud of the excellent service it has provided during this time. However, funding from the KZN Department of Health has not been sufficient for number of programmes rendered by Council clinics almost on a daily basis, and Council has been absorbing this extra load while subsidising the clinic services.

During the 2013/2014 financial year the City received R9,6 million in grant funding for clinic services and Council had to provide an additional R13,4 million to maintain the services and standards of the City's clinics to a level acceptable to the Municipality.

While the transfer will financially benefit the City's Rates and General Services component of the budget, Council believes it is appropriate that it be well informed of the implications of the transfer of this service and would like clear evidence that the quality of service will not deteriorate once managed directly by Province.

Meetings regarding the takeover process are currently underway and the Municipality has stressed the importance of transferring the clinics as a 'going concern' and that clinic services should continue uninterrupted during the takeover process to ensure ongoing service delivery to residents.

Other issues to be address relate to the clinic buildings, which were not built by Province as is the case in other municipalities. The main clinic structures in Empangeni, Richards Bay and Felixton, in particular, are attached on the same property as other municipal structures and Province has requested permission to occupy and utilise these facilities until such time that it has secured its own premises.

The standalone clinics at Aquadene, Brackenham, Meerensee, Zidedele and the Empangeni Baptist Church are on a lease agreement between Council and the property owners. However, Province is prepared to entered into a lease agreement with uMhlathuze to make services accessible, available and to preserve the status quo, so that patients currently serviced from these clinics do not suffer.



Important Municipal Telephone Numbers

In case of uncertainty, the main switchboard in Richards Bay can be reached by dialling 035-9075000

- **Building Inspectorate**
Office hours: 035 907 5434/5409/5410
- **Housing**
Office hours: 035 907 5486/5057
- **Tourism**
Office hours: 035 907 5018
Empangeni:.....035 907 5630
- **Waste Management**
Office hours (Emp): 035 907 5670
Office hours (R/Bay):.....035 907 5789/5790
- **Traffic**
R/Bay Motor Licencing035 907 5268/5461
Emp Motor Licencing.....035 907 5650/5652
Drivers Licences..... 035 787 1464
Traffic Section..... 035 907 5633
Control Room..... 035 907 5760/1
Learners Licences035 907 5030
- **Fire**
Office hours..... 035 907 5722/3
After035 797 3314/5
Emergency035 797 3313/3911
- **Property Section**
Enquiries 035 907 5038/5073
- **Hall Bookings**
Empangeni..... 035 907 5620
Ngwelezane 035 907 5832
Richards Bay 035 907 5048
Esikhaleni 035 907 5825
Sport fields035 907 5352/5941
- **Water Leaks & Sewer Leaks**
Roads & Storm Water
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard..... 035 907 5000
- **Refuse Removal**
Empangeni.....035 907 5670/5679
Richards Bay035 907 5790/5769
- **Power Failures**
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard..... 035 907 5000
- **Streetlight Complaints**
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard..... 035 907 5000
- **Treasury**
Account enquiries..... 035 907 5497/5128/
5132/5131/5286/5960/5142
SCM enquiries.....035 907 5770
Supplier's database registration 035 907 5773

uMhlathuze News - Also on: www.umhlathuze.gov.za

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Design and Layout: Alliance Graphics Printing: Colour Planet

Dial 0800 222 827 for the City's 24-hour Call Centre