

Voice of **EMFULENI** You Belong. We Care!

EMFULENI MUNICIPALITY EXTERNAL NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 3 December 2009

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

The month of December bids farewell to the current year and heralds the dawn of a new beginning.

The year 2009 was fraught with challenges and brought with it complications beyond our imagination and subjugation.

We have cried and laughed, lost and won.

In the end, humankind, through resilience, conquered beyond expectations.

Amid the torrid storms that besieged us, we taught ourselves how to persevere and weather these storms.

The road we have traveled was steep and fraught with difficulties. But amidst these difficulties we never despaired.

2009 was a year full of hope.

We cried and mourned. Yet through our warm-heartedness we surmounted the hardships by turning our sorrows into happiness.

Christmas is always a time to give, to love and to share.

Let the year 2010 bring a new beginning.

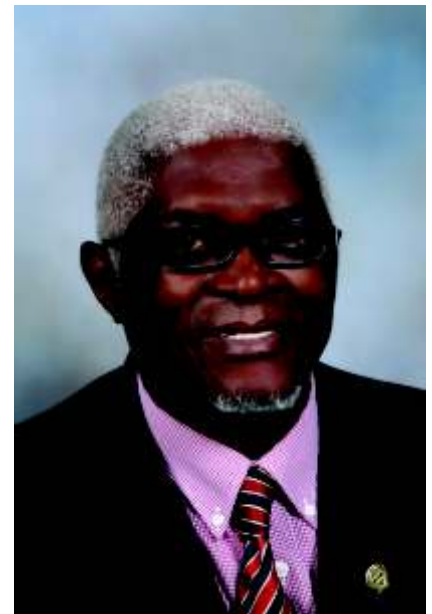
With this new beginning we look forward with a renewed sense of hope and enthusiasm.

2010 shall give opportunities for peace, growth and prosperity. As we enter the new year, let us do so with determination, vigour, zeal and hope.

**WISHING YOU A HAPPY
CHRISTMAS AND A
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.**

**“KHOTSO HAE
BE LE LONA”**

“You belong-We care”



*Cllr. SA Mshudulu
Executive Mayor*

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Team: Editor-in-Chief
Paseka Rakosa

Layout/Design
Esmé de Villiers

Editor
Stanley Gaba

Contributors
Thabiso Radebe, Mase Mofokeng

For submissions contact: Tel: 016 950 5384, stanleyg@emfuleni.gov.za

VAAL RIVER SPILLAGE IS AN ACT OF VANDALISM

By implementing a radio-based scada monitoring solution in the Vanderbijlpark-Vereeniging area, a longstanding environmental spillage problem along the Vaal River is placed under tight control. Emfuleni is experiencing unprecedented acts of vandalism on pipes, property, pumps and related instruments. These are clear signs of acts of vandalism.

The Emfuleni Local Municipality (ELM) is appealing to communities within its boundaries to report any acts of vandalism on municipal and other privately owned property, to the local authorities of ELM and/or the SAPS.

This follows recent damages to the municipality's main sewer pipe that passes over the Rietspruit River in West Extension 15, Evaton. The pipe, targeted by vandals, is transporting raw sewerage from the entire Evaton West to the Sebokeng Waste Water Care Works.

This specific part of the pipeline is above the surface of the ground. This critical part of the pipeline is also located just above Rietspruit River. Two holes were punctured on both sides of the pipe resulting in raw sewerage pouring straight into the river polluting it.

The Executive Mayor, Councillor Assistance Mshudulu also warned big industries guilty of pollution. "Some of the major spillages are caused by big industries operating in the Vaal area. They normally dump their waste for example animal skins and animal carcass in water storms pipelines. Because some of the spillages are caused by people dumping unnecessary stuff that blocks the sewages, citizens need to be educated on how the sewage system works," Mshudulu said.

"We need cooperate with the police with regard to the offenders and the companies that contaminate the river. Most importantly, we need to discourage communities from damaging municipal properties and to refrain from contaminating the water," Mshudulu added.

After receiving the report, the maintenance team from Metsi-a-Lekoa quickly responded and saved the situation from deteriorating. Acts like this perpetuate the perception that the ELM's is not effective in dealing with pollution into the Vaal River.

The ELM urges members of the community to please report leakages or spillages in their respective areas so that they can attended to on time.

In case of spillages contact our Customer Care Call Centre at (016) 986 8361 /8363 between 07H30 and 16H00. After hours call 082 325 9541 (Sebokeng), 082 325 9542 (Vanderbijlpark), 082 325 9543 (Vereeniging) & 082 325 9544 (Evaton).



Above: Vandals punctured holes in the sides of the pipe and raw sewerage came out polluting the Rietspruit River in Evaton.



Above: The pipe after the quick response of the Metsi-A-Lekoa Maintenance Team.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR STREET CLOSURE AND ERECTION OF TENTS

Household/private residents, business vendors/entities including NGOs/CBOs/FBOs and interested parties are hereby notified about the applicable procedures for the street closure and erection of tents. Street closure will only occur when the following conditions and procedures are met:

Procedure

1. An application must be submitted to the traffic division, Vereeniging at least seven (7) working days prior to the date of the event.
2. The signatures of all neighbours in the vicinity must accompany the application letter, agreeing that the street closure or erection of a tent may take place.
3. The applicant must notify the ward councillor in time. Where/if necessary, the ward councillor can make recommendations.
4. Supervisor of the respective areas will conduct an inspection for the venue.
5. After a feed back is received from the supervisor, confirming the safety of the area for closure of the street / erection of a tent, then:
 - 5.1. Applicants need to sign an indemnification form at the traffic division, Vereeniging.
 - 5.2. Permission will be granted in a traffic permission letter issued to the applicant.
 - 5.3. Copies of the application and permission letters will be provided to the commander of the region where the erection of a tent /street closure occur
6. Permission letter must be kept with the applicant, at all

times to be produced upon request.

Conditions

Permission may/will not be granted due to the following reasons:

- Under no circumstances will the period of permission for a street closure/erection of a tent exceed twenty four (24) hours
- If road carries too much vehicles traffic
- On main roads and busy roads
- Posses high safety risk
- Neighbours do not agree to the street closure
- If damage is to be done to tarred road surfaces
- Wherever there is no sufficient space or alternative roads available for road users.

The applicant will be informed accordingly by means of a letter.

No tent will be erected or road closure will occur without complying with the abovementioned procedures and conditions.

For inquiries:

Contact Chief: Traffic and Security

Marie Klotz

Enquiries: Telephone 016 455 1674

Fax 016 455 1418

DON'T LOOK AWAY: ACT AGAINST ABUSE

Before we turn our focus to the holidays for the festive season, it is apt to concentrate on the annual 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children first, which began on the 25th November 2009.

Tragically and ironically it is during the festive season when families and friends are in close proximity, and such gatherings are often fuelled by alcohol abuse, that women and children bear the brunt of domestic violence.

Most incidents occur when the perpetrators are known, and often related, to their victims, and a conspiracy of shame and silence then ensues. This year's theme underlines this:

"DO NOT LOOK AWAY- ACT AGAINST ABUSE".

Despite a decade of such campaigns there are still high levels of violence against women and children in South Africa, partly because of historic patriarchy but also because of general lawlessness and unchanged mindsets.

The constitution and laws safeguarding women's rights, like

the Domestic Violence Act, are excellent on paper but the difficulty is giving them teeth and changing attitudes. Many women in public life do not seem to have markedly improved the lives of their less empowered sisters.

Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe threw down the gauntlet to South African men ahead of this campaign: "Almost all crimes, including abuse, are committed by men ... Real men do not remain silent in the face of violent crimes, rapes and HIV/ Aids. Real men speak up and condemn all of this".

Indeed, as should all women, although this is much easier said than done. The following 16 days focus on Aids and the disabled. The campaign ends appropriately with International Human Rights Day. For women and children's rights are human rights, finish and klaar!

**Enjoy the festive season responsibly!
Do not drink and drive!**



WARD COMMITTEES COORDINATOR STRUCTURE



**CHIEF WARD COMMITTEE
COORDINATOR
MOJI TSHABALALA**
082 616 0487
016 950-5385



- EVATON
- W 18
- W 19
- W 20
- W 24
- W 26
- W 29
- W 37
- W 38
- W 39
- W 40
- W 41
- W 42
- W 43

**WARD COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
POGISHO SEOKAMO**
0737365314
016 950-5385



- SEBOKENG
- W 2
- W 17
- W 28
- W 30
- W 31
- W 32
- W 33
- W 34
- W 36
- W 27

**WARD COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
MADIBA PETSE**
073 121 2590
016 950-5385



- BOPHELONG &
BOITSHEPIVILLE
- W 3
- W 6
- W 7
- W 8
- W 11
- W 12
- W 13
- W 14
- W 23
- W 25

**WARD COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
TEMBINKOSI PULU**
083 593 7062
016 950-5385



- VEREENIGING &
VANDERBIJLPARK
- W 1
- W 4
- W 5
- W 9
- W 10
- W 15
- W 16
- W 21

**WARD COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
NELLY MOKELE**
072 934 7172
016 950-5385

Indemnity

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KEEPING OUR TOWNSHIPS CLEAN

Emfuleni has a reputation for being one of the cleanest towns in the province and nationally. But it has stepped up the gear to maintain the standard by procuring Doppstadt Shredder DW 2560 model and Doppstadt Windrow Turner.

The equipment mentioned above is just the first in a series to establish a composting plant with the main aim to reduce the waste stream by taking the green waste out of Landfill sites. This is also linked to the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) which makes provision for waste streams to be reduced.

Doppstadt Shredder DW 2560

This machine weighs 19 tons and is capable of shredding trees with a diameter of 500 to 600 mm with ease. It is basically a single shaft rotation drum of which the speed can be controlled with staggered front end teeth mounted all over the drum. The speed of the drum rotation can be controlled through revolutions depending on the load of greens that it needs to shred at any particular time.

The whole operation of the machine is automatic and also equipped with conveyer belts that take the shredded material to a loading point at one side of the machine. The greens are being fed at an open loader bay at the top of the machine where it gets shredded during operations. Once shredded, it falls on a conveyer belt at the bottom of the machine.

With these new machines the municipality aims to clean up all areas in Emfuleni and to encourage people to stop illegal dumping, keep their places clean and also protect their trees and environment.

Speaking to residents, who came out in numbers, Executive Mayor Assistance Mshudulu said it was time people of Emfuleni changed their bad habits of dumping rubbish in every space available. "Keeping your place clean will not only improve your health, but it will also instil pride in you," said Cllr Mshudulu.

He further advised them to become ambassadors of a clean and green Emfuleni by creating and looking after their parks and vegetable gardens. "Poverty and unemployment are not an excuse to destroy your environment," said Mshudulu.

Emfuleni Waste Manager, Ms Alma Ludidi indicated that after consulting with other departments, especially the Law Enforcement Unit, they came up with a plan that stands on four pillars: "Law and guidelines to enforce cleanliness, Public awareness and education, Economic and poverty alleviation creating jobs, working together with other departments and communities". The manager further said: "We are doing this because we want you to have good health and better living by keeping your place clean and green."

Operations

The machine started with its operations on Monday 31st August 2009, and is taking a weekly round at the landfill sites

(Boitshepi and Waldrift) and all mini dump / transfer stations situated in Vereeniging (including Blackwood in Rissiville / Three Rivers region where green waste is accumulated to be shredded.

The shredded material is then transported to a portion at the back of Waldrift Landfill site where composting of the material will be done. The Waldrift landfill site is now also being licensed as a composting plant.

Advantages

With the purchase of this equipment and final intended usage, the Department of Waste and Landfill Management is attempting to achieve the following:

- Reducing operational cost to Council.
- Comply with the Waste Act to reduce the mainstream of materials to be land filled.
- Creating compost to be used on the slopes of landfill sites (progressive rehabilitation of landfill sites).
- Create a means to acquire compost for use by the Department of Parks to beautify our area.
- Lastly, to make available compost that can be used in Community projects to beautify areas and establish vegetable gardens.

At this point the Department of Waste does not have any means to separate the waste from the shredded waste, the assistance of the residents is requested to leave the green waste with the minimum of pollution. At all sites, there will be bins available to dispose of unwanted refuse. For information residents can contact Waste Management Department at (016) 986 8445.



Above: Emfuleni residents must change their habits of dumping rubbish in every space available

'GREEN SCORPIONS' LAUNCHED AT EMFULENI'

Emfuleni Local Municipality's environmental police force, the "Green Scorpions," have been launched in July 2009 to crack down on polluters, illegal dumping, trading and any by-law transgression.

In the first of what the Department of Traffic is calling a "planned specialised enforcement operation", the specialised unit's inspectors aim to crack down on deliberate, illegal pollution of our environment, the disposal of hazardous waste in our vicinity and the general degradation of our environment.

Currently the unit consists of 10 members appointed as By-law Enforcement Officers led by superintendent Sekhonyane. Johannesburg Metro Police Academy has provided them with intensive training in the area of By-law Enforcement and this unit is working closely with Municipal Courts. The unit also hold educational workshops and hand out information to members of the public in an effort to increase environmental awareness.

According to the department, the establishment of this unit and compliance inspection comes in the wake of "numerous incidents" by chemical plants and factories, where there have been serious breaches of environmental legislation over the past five years.

Disposal of waste will be a focal point of inspectors in Vanderbijlpark and Vereeniging area, where the Green Scorpions will check out abattoirs in the surrounding areas.



**GREEN
SCORPIONS**

In Sebokeng, Evaton, Palm Springs, Bophelong, Sharpeville and Boipatong inspectors "intend to carry out enforcement in relation to illegal dumping, illegal shelters, illegal containers, vagrants (homeless people) and illegal posters".

On the Vaal River, the Green Scorpions will serve a compliance notice on companies and factories that continuously throw hazardous waste and sewerage in the river. This has been a perennial problem for the municipality without a solution in sight.

Inspectors have vowed to jealously monitor the Vaal River for illegal fishing and sewer spillage since the river is the pride of the people of Emfuleni.

"An education and awareness campaign and issuing out of compliance notices is going to be part of our daily duty. As inspectors we will engage with fishermen on the topic of illegal fishing, Metsi-A-Lekoa for sewer spillage, Factories and Companies for illegal dumping and ordinary residents for illegal household structures in an effort to address this serious challenge of by-laws transgression," emphasised Superintendent Sekhonyane.

The department is calling on the public to report environmental transgressions to the 24-hour environmental crimes and incident hotline on 016 950-5308.

EMFULENI POSITIONING ITSELF FOR 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP

Emfuleni is not a host city for 2010, however there are opportunities associated with the legacy projects for 2010. There have been a number of engagements with SAFA through its President, Dr. M Oliphant. Subsequently, a meeting was secured with the CEO of FIFA LOC Dr. D Jordan on the 7th August 2009 at SAFA House in Johannesburg. The Emfuleni delegation was led by the honourable Executive Mayor, Cllr. SA Mshudulu. The purpose of these discussions centred on the possibility of using Emfuleni as a base camp for

countries that have qualified for 2010 World Cup including the team from Netherlands. With its facilities, natural resources and booming hospitality industry, this area is ideal for a base camp. The municipality will explore the Eindhoven twinning programme to leverage spin-off associated to such.

These discussions are at an advanced stage and therefore watch the space for further developments.



Front row from left : (Former) SAFA president Mr Molefi Oliphant , Mr Lucky Kamolane: DMM Public Safety, Executive Mayor Clr. Sithole Assistance Mshudulu, 2010 LOC CEO: Mr Danny Jordan , Mr Biase Ntombela: International relations coordinator

SPRING CLEANING 2009: THE ART OF COMPLETION

Spring is the time of renewal, a time for a fresh start, a time to reconnect with yourself, the world you live in and to those you relate to on a daily basis.

In a year we go through various seasons; summer, winter, spring and autumn. Each season brings with it its own experiences and challenges. With these experiences and challenges we accumulate a lot of 'clutter' (what we categorize as in-completions). Emotional and psychological hurts, disappointments, unfulfilled goals, stagnation, broken promises, unfulfilled dreams, ill-health ... the list goes on and on. In most instances this 'clutter' simply get brushed off as we go on with our daily lives, striving for survival; thus leaving us in a state of incompleteness. The in-completions tend to show up in our conscious mind, preventing us from moving forward and living a fulfilled life.

Spring is an inspiring time to embark on a new journey of discovery, soul cleansing and new possibilities. The most important participant in this process is you! It is up to you as a person to acknowledge that there is a need to spring clean. Make decisions that can support you in moving into a future with new possibilities. It is only when you have made that decision that you can go out and look for other support

systems.

Spring cleaning your live gives you a chance to analyze yourself, to see whether your actions have contributed in achieving the goals you have set for yourself in the beginning of the year. Overall, this is a time to sit back, reflect, let go of the past and move-on from a new positive state of mind. A state of new possibility! An opportunity to get out of the old, and in with the new!

Courtesy of Refilwe Lehobo of Dhama Coaching and Wellness

ZONE 13 LIBRARY UNDERGOES MASSIVE RECONSTRUCTION

The Zone 13 Community Library in Sebokeng is to undergo a massive transformation into a multi-purpose information centre. This project is funded by Emfuleni Local Municipality through Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) and Conditional grant. This library is going to benefit the community in that it wil allow its land to be utilized for vegetable gardens, flower arrangements, beadwork and so forth. There will also be programs conducted during school holidays targeting children and the youth.

BOLENG BA MOSADI- A WOMAN'S WORTH

Because of the significance of women, it would take us a lifetime to really define the value of women, as we all know women poses a lot of power. Women are the trees of life. As part of commemorating the giant step that was taken by over 20 000 women of all races, who come from all walks of South Africa, on 9 August 1956, the Sedibeng District Municipality in partnership with its local municipalities took pride in their female employees and treated them to a well deserved Gala dinner at the Emerald Casino Resort.

The event was not just about the glamour but commemorated and celebrated the courageous struggles that women embarked upon to usher in a democratic dispensation. Motivational speakers were invited to uplift and help women to discover the potential inside them.

Among some of the esteemed speakers was the Minister of Basic Education, Angelina Matsie Motshekga, who emphasized the importance of girls being awarded an equal opportunity to go to school, especially those that are victims of teenage pregnancies. "When you start to excluded a

pregnant child from school you are not only depriving the child an opportunity to be a child but you also pushing the child into making the same mistake again," argues Ms. Motshekga.

Generation actress, Sophie Ndaba told them about her poverty stricken upbringing story, which she defied to determine her destiny. "I did not achieve what I have today on a silver platter. I defied odd circumstances and put God before everything", emphasized Sophie. She said that she is grateful to God for everything she has because He gave her power and will to fight for her destiny.

She recollected the pain of sleeping on an empty stomach, and the walking barefoot on a cold winter morning. Sophie persevered in everything because she had a dream. "A dream is one thing that can not be taken away from you," she concluded.

Emfuleni Local Municipality hopes that all its female employees had a happy women's month. This was not only about the August month but about valuing women, everyday of their lives. Don't let go of your dreams!

The event was concluded by having entertainment in the form of Jazeel Brothers. They did not disappoint as they brought down the house with musical prowess. They kept young and old dancing throughout the night, especially with the fan favourite song: "Ngeke ngize ngiphinde".



Generation actress, Sophie Ndaba