

Issue 8
4th Quarter 2013



AMAVA

The catalyst for change

Emfuleni Local Municipality ANC Caucus Newsletter



"Your life remains
our inspiration"



Vaal River City, the Cradle of Human Rights



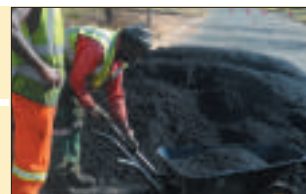
Vaal River City, the Cradle of Human Rights



AMAVA is the mouthpiece of the ANC in government and seeks to advocate the will of the ruling government in this municipality

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AMAVA

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We meet a month after we had buried one of the fellow compatriots a cadres who understood that it is not yet uhuru, who toiled the in the quest to better the life of mankind. This is the soldier who understood that Asizabalazi ngokufana and everyone has his role in defense of the revolution. I talk of a very soft spoken man who spoke less and did much as an administrator and personnel who was in the cold front of service delivery, I speak of Mxolisi Dondolo 'May his soul rest in peace.

This is a very crucial month in the political history of this country; this is the month that turned the tide in as far as liberation is concerned. We remain indebted to the 1976 generation that was so valiant and selfless enough to face up to the Apartheid demagogue. One cannot cease to acknowledge the role played by young people in the liberation of this country from time immemorial, indeed the Program of Action as a brainchild of the gallant generation of Sisulu did yield the results of freedom.

I must indicate that I am elated by the strides taken by our government in as far youth development is concerned, we have seen the signing of the Youth Employment Accord which is a milestone as it speaks about the mainstreaming of Youth Development. Over 3.1 billion over five years has been reserved for youth development in the country, we have also seen some reserves for the youth entrepreneurship as this has been an issue that we have been raising over the years that NYDA alone cannot be a panacea to youth challenges now IDC has been robbed in and this is a step into the right direction.

We have also learned from the Executive Mayor's address during the State of the Municipality address that her Mayoral Committee really seeks to invest in the future of young people as they have plethora of programs that seeks to empower young people including spending close to a million on the bursary scheme for learners and helping those who have not done well in their matric so they can have university entrance.

I want to agree with many young people outside that much as all this is done there is still more to be done, we still have to ensure as this council in the next financial year that indeed the youth policy is finally adopted by council so that we can begin mainstreaming

youth development in our municipality and it serves as a monitoring tool to gauge if the municipality is really keeping to council resolutions as that will be a council document/policy.

Protests

We must concede as the ruling party that our communities might be raising genuine issues of service delivery and that proper attention should be given to their genuine concerns however caution should be exercised on criminal elements who want to take this opportunity to cause instability within the municipality, secondly it is people who harbor personal selfish interests of business through genuine issues of our beloved community.

The only people who can defend the country are its own nation and the only people who defend the municipality are its own community. This can only happen if community is awake to real issues and be able to be vigilant enough to realise hyenas grazing with the flock of sheep. It must be the community that is able to protect the sheep from the danger of the hyena.

Our community has a way to communicate their frustrations through proper channels of the petitioning systems which is hailed as the best system to address whatever issues that our communities may face, be it noise making, misunderstanding amongst themselves dissatisfaction against the municipality and the policy governing this system allows for a turnaround time in terms of response and should it happen that concerns are not properly addressed the system provides for the matter to be elevated.

This I raise with great feeling of sadness to see our unsuspecting communities being in the fore front thinking that they are fighting for their



Chief Whip: DE Tshabalala



genuine issues only to find that there are those with big purses who are using ring leaders to cause instability. The ANC Caucus in Emfuleni local municipality abhor what happened to councillor Phume in ward 22, councillor Letlhake in ward 38 and worse to councillor Nthebe in ward 36 wherein community revolt against its councillor who residing in the ward who toiling with them and who are willing to bear the brunt for them. The law will take its course yes but the community must begin to be alive to real issues and remain the first line of defense for councillors and its government.

Winter fire

This winter we have experienced numerous incidents of fire wherein families lost their properties as a result of fires caused incidentally or accidentally. I am aware that fire campaigns have been happening in the municipality spearheaded by fire department educating the community about the need to be cautious especially when using candles in informal settlements and even in formal settlements during the electricity shut down.

It is important that we heed this call by officials and that as neighbors we be vigilant should such incident occur we be in a better situation to quell the fire. Most of the times as this happen to families they lose it and become

Chief Whip's Corner continue

frustrated and not know what to do but it will take caring, loving and vigilant neighborhood to deal with the situation amicably.

In Bophelong a family of fifteen had to part with their valuables due to this fire and it was painful as one realizes that most victims becomes young innocent children but the office manage to salvage the situation through the help from the Food bank which came to rescue with clothing, food and blankets, in Small farm 6 families became victims to this fire which brought down the house again the office is trying to work out a solution for the families. I wish to tender my deepest sincere to all the families who fell victim to fire in this winter.

Caucus Lekgotla

We held a caucus lekgotla which is an annual strategic session; it serves as an exhale for ANC councillors to takes stock of the previous resolutions implementation by the executive ad begin to draw a roadmap for the path ahead. ANC caucus takes pride on the work done in the last financial year especially work in progress with regard to revenue enhancement and performance which has resulted to us having an unqualified audit opinion which is a history in making.

The progress is not limited to the latter two and we must hasten to mention that it shows that the Emfuleni leadership takes governance very serious including administration. We have also managed to ensure that we empower MPAC so it can be able to do oversight work over executive and thus far it is coming right and it shows that with the speed and determinations they show that it is not by mistake that we unanimously approved its report in council.

The caucus lekgotla in its deliberation took very serious resolutions which in the quest for bettering the lives of our people in the municipality:

- Establishment of the Youth unit
- Getting rid of the refuse bags and introducing the skip bins
- Filling all critical vacant posts
- Maintenance of parks for recreational purposes
- Establishment of the super by-law unit
- Erection of informal trading stalls
- Establishment of the revenue agency

The above are but some of the key resolutions which should find expression in the 2013/2014 financial year and we remain confident that they will be attained as we have a dedicated team in Caucus which remains the custodian of this resolutions.

SOMA

Mintirho ya vhulavhula, that's all I can say after

an address which received a standing ovation even from the opposition. This was after the Executive Mayor spoke of the road traversed and the road ahead and everyone realized that indeed the government of the ANC is really on deck and that it is committed in to changing the lives of our people in general. It is after this address that as the Chief Whip of the ANC I say "I am proud of our past, happy about our present and remain confident of our future"

Emergency Programme for Pothole Patching

A special intervention to address the backlog of potholes in our road network has been arranged with a private contractor to assist our internal staff.

The programme has been designed in such a way that it will address a number of different areas while doing quality work at the same time. The approach in terms of the programme will be in three cycles; the first being roads that are most critical, the second being roads that are fairly critical and the last being those that are least critical.

Work done between 29/01/2013 and 16/02/2013

The work completed during the above mentioned period was done in Vanderbijlpark on the following roads:

Stone Haven rd, Beethoven rd, Hendrik van Eck rd, Louis Trichardt rd (north portion), Schumann rd, Bach rd, Vivaldi rd, Verdi rd, MacOwen rd, Rossini rd, Livingstone rd, Play-fair rd, Piet Retief rd, Rutherford rd, Currie rd, Moerdyk rd, Christian De Wet rd, Delfos ext rd, Kariba rd, Andries Potgieter rd, Jan van Riebeeck rd, General Hertzog rd, Donges rd, Miccin rd and Frikkie Meyer rd.

The work completed during the same above mentioned period was done in Bophelong on the following roads:

Dr. Nelson Mandela rd and Bophelong shopping centre.

Work presently being executed between 18/02/2013 and

19/02/2013

The work going on during the above mentioned period is in Vanderbijlpark in the following sections:

CE2, CW3, SE1, SE2, Florah Gardens and Bophelong.

On top of the above mentioned areas, the following roads specifically are being addressed:

Playfair rd (east portion), Westinghouse rd, Frikkie Meyer rd (south portion), Wenning rd, Chopin rd and Ascot on Vaal rd.

Work to be executed between 20/02/2013 and 8/03/2013

The work will be done to address the potholes during the above mentioned period in Vereeniging and Three Rivers, amongst others in the following roads:

Klipriver rd, Golf rd, Zambezi rd, Fish Eagle rd, Hawthorn rd, Comorand rd, Bashee East & West rd, Cypress rd, Falcon rd, Dove rd, Poplaar rd, Plane rd, Kei East rd, Assegai rd, Spey sirkel rd, Brandmuller rd, Caledon drive, Palm rd, Chestnut rd, Touw rd, Kowie rd, Union rd, Edward rd, Van Riebeeck rd, Victoria rd, Joubert rd, Stanley rd, Merriman rd, Hoffmeyer rd, Senator rd, De Villiers rd, Borkowitz rd, Springfield rd, Benghazi rd.

The rest of the road not mentioned above will be addressed in the second and third cycle as mentioned above but, most importantly it must be mentioned that we are also having a reserve team which is addressing any road that becomes critical even if it is not written above irrespective of its class of road (as long as it poses danger to the vehicles and or pedestrians).

Pothole



Patching





Boipatong Memorial and Youth Centre

Background

Boipatong memorial and Youth Centre project is the Provincial project that was initiated in 2006.

The Boipatong Memorial Project was conceived through a resolution taken by the Gautrain Political Committee of the Gauteng Provincial Government in the year 2006. The resolution made reference to a Gautrain Community Investment Plan, targeting one community in the Sedibeng District Municipality, and Boipatong was chosen as one of the beneficiary communities. This came after an intensive consultation process with key stakeholders around the Sedibeng District Municipality and the Emfuleni Local Municipality.

This project had a sod turning event organized by the then Gauteng Department of Transport, Roads and

Public Works MEC Ignatius Jacobs, Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor Clr Mlungisi Hlongwane and the Executive Mayor of Emfuleni Local Municipality Clr Dikeledi Tsotetsi.

The event was held on the 17 June 2006 at Boipatong monument site.

On the 16 July 2008, the project was officially launched by the then Minister of Transport Jeff Radebe, the MEC and the CEO of Gautrain Mr Jack Van der Merwe at Boipatong stadium.

Since 2006 Boipatong stakeholders were consulted and interacted with the Governmental departments in preparation for the project.

In 2009 the local stakeholders converged to establish the project steering committee which constituted as follows:

The Project Steering Committee

Sector	Name & Surname
Business	Bongani Dhlamini
	Stephen Maphike
Elderly and People with disabilities	Mamokete Moleofane
	Sibusiso Makhanya
Ex – Combatants	Oupa Moisi & Gcina Shabangu
	Isaac Qali & Scott Hlahane
Faith Based Organisations	Lennox Mzongwana
	Alinah Kheswa
Massacre Survivors	Makgoedi Molete
	Apa Sebolai
Non – Governmental Organisations	Setjele Mofokeng
	Tshidi Tsotetsi
Political Parties	Alfred Golotile
	Jabulani Patose
Women	Corinah Mkhabela
	Vivian Manyaka
Youth	Dipuo Hlahane
	Andile Mpetsheni
Ward Councillors	Vusi Mbele
	Mabandla Ronyuza
PR Councillors	Abel Radebe
	Ntombi Mhlongo

The Community Liaison Officer appointed is Mr Lizwi Mothibeli.

Consultation

Several consultative meetings were held between the Provincial Government officials and the community of Boipatong. Through these interactions the then MEC of Infrastructure Development Faith Mazibuko met unilaterally with the Ex-Combatants (Military Veterans) where agreements were made that the latter qualify for the 30% stake of the projects.

This would be attained through bidding in the duration and after the project phase of the monument. This would also be obtained through the registration of the cooperative that will be co-owned together with the survivors of Boipatong Massacre. The cooperative would manufacture building bricks and paving bricks for the project.

The site for the Brick Manufacturing Co – operative has not been established whilst the brick work has been completed in the project. The company **Gregory Million** was appointed to establish site and they were stopped from working by the local contractors after it was identified that no one was informed in the community about the commencement of works. The matter was referred to the Project Steering Committee that adjudicated that works should start immediately so that training should start. The company has not started work even after these interventions.



CatergrictEmporio was appointed to undertake training of the EPWP personnel.

- 120 People were trained through Expanded Public Works Programme.
- 60 will be part of the Brick Manufacturing Co-operative.
- 60 Trainees are supposed to be practically trained in the project.
- 32 EPWP trainees have worked in the Project so far.

Trainees were exposed into the following trades:

- Brick work
- Plastering
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Supervision
- Paving
- Brick making
- Tiling
- Painting

Contractor Appointed – Charlie's BuildingConstruction

- The Main Contractor was appointed on the 19 September 2011.
- Site handed on the 6 October 2011 and the Completion Date is 6 July 2012.
- Revised Completion date is the 15 February 2013.

Challenges

- Stoppages emanating from late payments.
- Nebulous 40% claim from MKMVA individuals
- EPWP trainees without supervision and payments.
- Non establishment of the Brick Making site.
- Non visibility in the PSC meetings by DID.
- Lack of Skills transfer to the PSC.



The following sub-contractors have been appointed

Company Name	Service Provided	Contact Person
Dudulani Projects JV with 9 Local Companies	Brick work	Sam Fihlani
KG Protector	Security Services	LeratoHlabakwe (MKMVA)
Chimurenga Property Specialist JV KwenayaKwena	Steel Fixing and Concrete Works	MphoMmusi
Segosedi Electrical JV MmapaballoThathalatsi Trading	Electrical Works	Ralesela Paul Mathhare (MKMVA)
Masosi Trading & Projects	Plastering	Thabo Matlala
Bophepha Environmental Control	Mechanical Works	ItumelengBophepha
Cycad Development Initiative JV Londolani Landscapes & Projects	Landscaping	SibongileBandom
Shear Force Design & Construction	Roofing	Josiah Gore

The outstanding trades:

Painting, Ceiling, Joinery and Carpentry, Tiling, Paving, Electronics and security systems, Generator

- Service Providers appointed for outstanding trades - KGT Enterprises -Electronics.
- NRB Glass and Aluminum - Aluminum windows and Doors.
- Diesel Electrical Services Pty LTD - Generator

Community members employed

Category	Number
Women	31
Youth	99
People living with Disability	3
Adults	26
Total	138





State of the Municipality Address by the Executive Mayor of the Emfuleni Local Municipality, Councillor Greta Hlongwane during the tabling of the 2013/14 Integrated Development Plan and Budget at the sitting of the council of Emfuleni Local Municipality on Thursday, 30 May 2013 in Vanderbijlpark

Cllr Greta Hlongwane
Executive Mayor of Emfuleni Local Municipality

It is that time of the year again when the Executive Mayor of Emfuleni Local Municipality Cllr Greta Hlongwane has to table the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Budget for the 2013/14 Financial Year as provided for in the Municipal Systems Act and Municipal Finance Management Act respectively.

While appreciating and noting some of the pressing and important work and reports to be attended to by Council, the highlight remains truly the expectation of the community and the public representatives on the service delivery plans of the municipality and monetary allocations as well as the envisaged tariffs delivered by the Executive Mayor to the Council.

In her address the Executive Mayor commented upfront on the situation prevailing in some parts of the Province and our own Municipality in particular, over the past weeks or so. The Executive Mayor condemned the unfortunate acts of violence and intimidation on foreign business people which led to public protests in various areas in our region.

The Mayor further apologized to the tent that was full to capacity for the change of venue at such a short notice which saw the event moved from the original venue to a responsible contingency option. The venue was allocated to assist with the housing registration process, which among other things was part of the case of those protests. Above all the intention was to assist with restoration of order rather than to fan flames of anarchy and lawlessness.

Remembering the milestones and the 19th anniversary since the attainment of democracy in South Africa the Executive Mayor said we must continue to work together in mobilising broader society to take stock of and celebrate the gains made since the dawn of democracy in South Africa. When we celebrate these milestones, we at all times

remember that we are a special Municipality in that we host the physical address for the signing of our internationally acclaimed Constitution.

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa was signed into law by the then President of South Africa, Mr. Nelson Mandela, in Sharpeville in 1996, a stone thrown away from where we are now.

This historic signing of the Constitution signaled the end of the minority rule in our country and the dawn of the democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous South Africa came into being.

The State of the Municipality Address must serve as one of those key tools which we must use to mark major milestones in South Africa's democratic history. The service delivery programmes and achievements which we have shared with our electorates prove that a lot has been achieved and although much still needs to be done.

Without necessarily denying the Executive Mayor acknowledged that our municipality is still faced up with enormous challenges, and further assured public representatives and the entire community of Emfuleni that we must collectively agree that life in our Municipality has and it continues to change for the better.

Remarking on the upcoming National Elections Cllr Hlongwane made a call to all of us to ensure that we are ready to make our mark during the elections, a right which the majority of us did not enjoy 20 years ago. We must continue to exercise this right to ensure that we deepen our democracy and struggle ethos of: A Government of the People by the Will of the People.

All of us if need be, must go and apply for IDs and register to vote. Those who are 18 years of age and above, who are South African citizens must be encouraged and educated to respect

this fundamental human right in a democratic state. In our case, they must develop to cherish and protect it as their liberation heritage. Emfuleni Local Municipality will indeed strive to provide resources in this budget year to take a lead in this regard!

As part of community engagements with the objective of encouraging payment for municipal services during the period under review, the Office of the Executive Mayor in Emfuleni held Revenue Summits throughout Municipality and the main objective of these engagements were to:

- Provide and create a platform to engage our residents on their duty to pay for services they receive from the Municipality;
- Create and promote awareness of our perspective roles and responsibilities (that is residents and Council);
- Clarify, discuss policies and procedures relating to revenue services;
- Promote stakeholder participation and liaison; and further
- Promote and encourage effective communication between the Municipality and its clients

It is through platforms such as these that the municipality can commit in ensuring that it offers its' people opportunities to interact and get to understand the challenges which is faced with as the municipality so as to work out a collective and concerted approach on achieving a better life for all.

Through these community engagements the municipality shared information and created awareness to empower communities to be able to make informed decisions with regards to role that tax payers play as residents of Emfuleni Local Municipality.

The Executive Mayors once again thanked all ratepayers of the Emfuleni Local Municipality who continue to pay their rates & taxes to

ensure that the municipality on the other hand continues better the lives of its people in terms of the provision of services to all. She emphasized that the contributions made by the taxpayers is important and critical in ensuring a sustained success and growth of the Municipality.

Lately there has been sporadic protests throughout the Municipality in the past few weeks. These protests have proven to be instigated by some among our communities who take advantage of the genuine service delivery grievances of our people and mislead them into participating in illegal acts of protests and at times senseless violence and chaos.

We confirm and agree with you that some of the service delivery issues raised during these protests are genuine and should be addressed effectively and speedily. She committed that in the new financial year the municipality will improve and strengthen the manner in which it communicates with the people of Emfuleni on matters that affect the provision of effective service delivery.

It is appalling when these service delivery protests are diverted to Councillors, their family members and their homes are attacked in the process of residents raising their service delivery grievances or any other grievance.

A recent victim of violence is Councillor Maselloane Nthebe of Ward 36 who was attacked together with her family in the early hours of Tuesday, 28th May. Her house was set on fire and she sustained serious injuries during a protest and this led to her being admitted at the hospital.

Echoing the call by the President of the Republic: Honourable Jacob Zuma when he said that and I quote: "While our Constitution allows protest action as part of the freedoms we fought for, the violence that sometimes accompanies the protest is unacceptable," unquote.

I call on all you the people of Emfuleni to support our councillors in performing their tasks of serving you, our communities. We must collectively agree that no amount of frustration should justify violence and the destruction of property when you raise your grievances with regard to service delivery or any other cause.

There are processes which must be

respected and adhere to. Further communities are advised to or can reach the Office of the Speaker which is the custodian of all the policies and processes.

Ukulwa Akunakusiza Ngaluthu.

The mayor was delight in sharing that the municipality has achieved a UNQUIFIED AUDIT REPORT for the financial year of 2011/2012. Equally important the MPAC has finally submitted their oversight report which was accepted by the council. Congratulations were sent to Councillor Maseko.

This is a clear demonstration of our commitment that we are on the right path to achieve a Clean Audit opinion by 2014.

Throughout the municipality a sense of continuous awareness regarding the need for a collective consciousness of good governance has arisen, with an integrated understanding of the importance of clean administration in ensuring responsive service delivery and understanding the importance of ethical leadership.

The 2011 Local Government Elections Manifesto informs our Integrated Development Plan and Budget in order to address the main theme as espoused in this Manifesto which states that: "Together we can build better communities".

Emfuleni Local Municipality has made strides and inroads into the communities by achieving the following milestones in line with the ANC Local Government Election Manifesto Priorities in a quest to deliver quality basic services:

- The municipality has managed to spend all Municipal Infrastructure Grant to the tune of R221million to fund much needed service delivery projects that included the construction of roads, sewer networks, water networks, building of community amenities and facilities.
- The spending level or rate of the currently year at an overwhelming 99%.
- 484 job opportunities were created through the above-mentioned infrastructure projects.
- The Expanded Public Works Programme

(EPWP) created additional 1386 job opportunities within our communities.

- 8 sectoral forums and registered 160 cooperatives established.
- 100 people as an initiative to support Small, Medium and Micro-Enterprises (SMMEs) were trained through the support of the municipality.
- In Vereeniging 10 informal trading stalls developed.
- 445 informal trading stores to various informal traders in the CBD's of Vereeniging and Vanderbijlpark were allocated to the community.
- Complete access to water and sanitation to all households in our municipal area.
- Electricity and waste removal from all households are provided throughout the municipality.
- Emfuleni local municipality is one of the top 12 municipalities in South Africa performing successfully well on the coveted Blue Drop status.
- A partnership with the bulk water supplier Rand Water to deliver improved water supply infrastructure to Palm Springs to the tune of R15million. The municipality has signed a three-year Private Public Partnership (PPP) agreement with our strategic partners SASOL/GIZ for the implementation of the Water Conservation Project.
- The municipality has commissioned a new sewer pump station in Johandeo to reduce sewer spillages.
- The municipality has achieved an effluent compliance level on average of 97% at our three waste water treatment plants.
- The municipality has won Bontle-ke-Botho Award (Best Overall) in Gauteng.
- 963 new low-cost houses in Tshepong as well as additional 1350 houses in Tshepiso, Extension 3 were electrified by the municipality.
- 1027 km of gravel roads.
- 75km of road.
- 20 500 square metres of road marking.
- The Evaton Library was upgrade to the

tune of R1,8million.

- Zone 13, Sebokeng Library was upgraded to allow better access and usage.
- The annual Vaal River Carnival attracted 121 000 participants.
- Dickenson Park was upgraded to the tune of R40 million.
- "Born-to-Read" programme within the municipality has attracting 2 250 participants.
- Local clinics have extended their closing operational time from 16:15 to 19:00 to improve access to community health services.
- Two additional mobile clinics were deployed to service the outlying areas of Barrage and Vaalower.
- Anti-retroviral treatment sites to benefit people living with HIV/AIDS by promoting access to treatment have been extended.
- 2 309 houses in partnership with the Gauteng Department of Local Government and Housing were built in the partnership.
- The Kwa-Masiza hostel has been converted it into decent housing units to accommodate low-income earners again in partnership with through the Gauteng Department of Local Government and Housing.
- The municipality introduced an indigent policy that reaches large numbers of those in need and made the necessary advances so as to bring about a developmental municipality, better placed to respond to the many and varied challenges of the transformation of the Municipality.
- The municipality convened a strategic Integrated Development Plan Lekgotla to review the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan and ensure its alignment to the budget.
- The municipality was regarded as the best performing and improved Municipality regarding the implementation of the crime prevention strategy.
- It was rated as the best and promising municipality in sports during the recent O. R Tambo Municipal Games.
- Has Established a functional and

operational Local Community Policing Forums in all wards.

- Convened successful crime prevention campaigns in partnership with the Department of Basic Education, Correctional Services, Provincial Community Safety, South African Police Services, Department of Social Development and Community Policing Forums focusing on drug abuse and domestic violence to strengthen the fight against crime.
- Strengthened governance structures by providing full support to the Mayoral Committee, Section 80 and 79 Committees.
- Introduced risk management as an endeavour to promote good governance.
- Established 45 functional ward committees within the Municipality.
- Convened a People's Assembly on 08th December 2012 as a programme to strengthen communication consultation.
- Convened Integrated Development Plan public participation engagement within the municipality to listen to the voice of the communities and deepen democracy.
- Consulted our communities extensively on the proposals of the Municipal Demarcation Board concerning the vision for a Metropolitan municipality status.
- Developed a risk management strategy and its subsequent action plan and a risk maturity of 3,6 out of 5 from the National Treasury assessment.
- Introduced risk management as part of promoting good governance.
- Compiled a credible and compliant Generally Recognized Accounting Practices (GRAP 17) municipal asset register.
- Obtained an Unqualified Audit Opinion from the Auditor-General in the fiscal year 2011/12. This is the major milestone for the year under review.
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding for reporting on fraud and corruption as well as service delivery backlogs through the Presidential and Premier's hotline.
- Established a risk management, anti-fraud and anti-corruption committee to develop strategies for clean administration. It is generally accepted that corruption has

become such a serious challenge that is beginning to have a negative impact on the country's nation building efforts, as well as on its reputation.

It is for this reason that the ANC-led government has identified the fight against corruption as one of its priorities alongside the tripartite challenges of unemployment, poverty and economic inequality as well as the combating of crime.

Consequently, most cases of fraud and corruption including senior people from within the municipality, will be brought to light by law enforcement and criminal justice agencies. This, if anything, is a clear demonstration of the ANC's commitment to combat fraud and corruption.

To support our learners to reach the optimum of their human endeavor and by enabling them to pursue their higher education aspirations, we have continued to provide top Grade 12 learners in all no-fee schools with bursaries.

Assisted students to the tune of R900 000 through the Mayoral Bursary Fund to further their studies at different institutions of higher learning in the country in the 2011/12 financial year..

Our objective of becoming a metropolitan municipality in line with the Gauteng Global City Region received a major boost when the Council of the Emfuleni Local Municipality resolved to submit to the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB) to submit a proposal for a Metropolitan status with due consideration of conditions and requirements of the Municipal Demarcation Board.

The submission is under consideration by the Municipal Demarcation Board and an announcement will be made in the near future. Consultations with our communities were done to source views, inputs and representations during December 2012 after the publishing of Section 26 notices by the MDB. We will continue to consult our stakeholders on this matter before and after a final determination is made by the MDB.

PLANS FOR THE 2013 / 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

The tabling of the IDP and Budget for the 2013/2014 financial year which are meant to improve and better the lives of the people of Emfuleni.

This IDP and Budget include inputs we received during our various public participations processes facilitated by the Office of the Speaker.

Only a comprehensive and collective approach to harness the resources of our municipality can reverse the crisis created by apartheid. Have a rich history of acting together for a better future outlined in snapshot programmes of action for the next financial year as provided for in the IDP and budget that is tabled:

- Upgrade water reservoirs in Sharpeville, Vanderbijlpark and Three Rivers to the tune of R6 million.
- Install high mast lights in Sebokeng Zone 7, 11, 12, 13 and 20 to the tune of R2, 8 million.
- Connecting the bulk water supply from Kwaggasfontein reservoir to Johande to the tune of R10 million.
- Ensuring smooth housing development and other economic development programmes take place in our Municipality, have set aside an amount of about R10 million to upgrade the sewer main pump station to Leeuwkuil Water Treatment Works.
- Further to this, upgrade the Rietspruit Waste Water Treatment Works to an amount of R7 million.
- Kopanong Street in Evaton West will be upgraded with an amount of R4,3 million.
- While an amount of R5,9 million has been set aside for the upgrading of the main roads in Sebokeng, Zone 6 Extension 5.
- Further upgrade Dickenson Park in Vereeniging to the amount of R7 million.
- Establish a traffic precinct in Sebokeng / Evaton to the tune of R3,8 million.
- An amount of R3 million will be used to extend the Vanderbijlpark Cemetery.
- An additional R3 million will be used to extend the Rust-ter-Vaal cemetery.
- Roads maintenance and pothole resealing project at R45.6 million has been budgeted for implementation. This is the bold action to attack the scourge of potholes in our city!!
- Grass Cutting at R13 million has been set

aside for a full rollout in the 2013/14 financial year.

- Street light maintenance at R4.2 million has been allocated.
- Water and Sanitation Maintenance programme at R11 million.
- Electricity Network Maintenance at R28 million.
- Acquisition of 240 litre Wheelie Bins at R12 million has been allocated for a phased rollout program starting from January 2014. Prioritized all paying areas as soon as we have acquired our fleet!
- Fleet Replacement at R49 million allocated to acquire all Service Delivery Fleet by January 2014.
- Implementation of the Regional Sewer Scheme in partnership with DWA and Rand Water- Contractor has been appointed and due to start by June 2013. Now in the process of concluding an Implementation Protocol with all affected Departments.
- Implementation Smart Metering – Contract and all legal requirements and due diligence to be completed by July 2013. Submit the contract to Council and National Treasury for approval not later than August 2013!
- Issuing of Title Deeds:
 - o Sharpeville and Boipatong: +500 still to be distributed.
 - o Some of these are delayed due to family disputes / deceased estates not being in place.
- Fast-tracking of the RETRO program in the following areas:
 - o Leeuhof Extension 1;
 - o Vanderbijlpark CW 5;
 - o Sonhof Flats;
 - o Rust-ter-Vaal Rental Units and
 - o Council-owned houses in Evaton not transferred under the R7500 Discount Benefit Scheme;
- Facilitate the upgrading of Provincial roads in partnership with the MEC of Roads and dealing with evictions and allocation of houses;
- A Partnership with Rand Water for the Wetlands Rehabilitation Program;
- Implementation of the New Road Resealing Technology;

Therefore the Executive Mayor made a call on all residents of Emfuleni to play their part and support the municipality in all its endeavors, not just lament on challenges. We need to find the solutions to our problems and must as well provide solutions to these challenges because we believe that local government is everybody's business.

2013 / 2014 BUDGET COMMITMENTS

This 2013/14 Budget provides for continued real growth in spending to support basic service delivery to all households.

There is a budget reduction that we are going to incur because of the new formula by the national treasury to determine equitable share allocations to municipalities throughout the country.

The outlook on development and change must be of a people working together for a common vision that connects the past to the present, and makes a better future possible.

The operating budget of the municipality for this fiscal year, July 2013 to June 2014, is R4,4 Billion.

The challenge in this fiscal year will be to drastically improve revenue collection. Revenue management is the pulse and life blood of the municipality and if left unattended it will turn service delivery obligations as well as developmental objectives into a crisis.

The capital budget is R 326 million. 51% of the capital expenditure is grant funded while 31% or over R 83 million is the municipality's own funds. The capital budget is for both new infrastructure as well as the renewal of existing infrastructure.

The Municipality proposes the following average tariff-increases for this financial year:

• Property rates	-	7%
• Electricity	-	10,07%
• Water	-	8,81%
• Refuse	-	10%
• Household sewerage	-	5,5%
• Business sewerage	-	10%
• Sundry tariffs	-	10%

Service delivery tariffs except electricity are mainly based on historic structures and are thus not cost-reflective. In this financial year the municipality will focus on tariff modeling to bring the true cost of services into our tariffs.

In conclusion the Executive thanked her Mayoral Committee for unwavering support and wise council. Sent gratitudes to the IDP Steering Committee for positive and encouraging contributions made. I also express gratitude to the IDP Steering Committee and the Section 80 Committee on Finance for their sterling role in providing robust analysis and inputs into the process.

Gratitude also goes to the Municipal Manager and his Team for playing an important role in the management and administration of the municipality.

Finally thanked community members who provide positive feedback on how the municipality could work better and differently.



Tribute to Cde Mxolisi Dondolo



By: Jason Mkhwane



It is true that cde Mxolisi is gone! His departure came so unexpected and too soon. It can only be fair from all of us as comrades to bid his soul to rest in peace because he went to sleep but forever.

He passes on in a very important month in life of the ANC. Those in the know say that leaders in the ANC are either born or they die in APRIL. As products of History, history tells us that the life of the ANC started since the arrival of white people (boarding Dromedaries, Goede Hoop and Reiger) on the 06 April in the year 1652 – it was the month of April, the month in which we commemorate and remember cde Baba Tambo, Chris Hani and cde Solomon Kalushi Mahlangu who before he was brutally murdered by hanging by the Apartheid regime said:



"My blood will nourish the tree that will bear the fruits of freedom. Tell my people that I love them. They must continue the fight."

Like Cde Mahlangu said it, it means that his dream of wanting to become a better person in this forever transforming society and politics of Sedibeng has been deferred. There has to be an intrinsic, casual relationship between his dream and its deferment. We as cdes must not fail to understand that cde Mxolisi like any other youth who chose to be a revolutionary and activists the fact is that you will always be in a process of historical development and this is

confirmed by Karl Marx when he said:

“ When human society reached a certain historical stage, classes and class struggle emerged. Every member of a class society exists as a member of a given class and lives in given conditions of class struggle. Man's social being determines his consciousness. In class society the ideology of the members of each class reflects a different position and different class interests. The class struggle constantly goes on among these classes with their different positions, interests and ideologies”

The departure of Cde Mxolisi must always remind us that cde Che Guevara emphasized that “True revolution is always guided by strong feeling of love”. Our struggle is not to become permanent enemies or permanent friends. In the process of development and building a better society we will always differ

and if we differ with our views it must not be misconstrued with hatred, a dominant monster eroding our politics today, but it must be understood as contradictions. For the development of any society there must always be contradictions or battle of ideas.

We need to reflect on his dream before we can deal with its inevitable deferment - cde Mxo was a leader who was shaped by the ANCYL politics and served in one of the militant youth league branches in the region, ward 33. I still recall time in memorial when we (I was serving in the RTT of the ANCYL in year 2006), together with the employees of the ANC were sent to intervene in their branch because there were problems, some section of youth which did not accept ANC decision of choosing a ward candidate to contest local government elections of 2006. He was part of the youth who came to disrupt that meeting carrying shamboks.

He swelled the ranks of the ANC and served in the Branch executive of the ANC and later discharged his administrative capacity to service the ANC at the regional office until his untimely death. We worked with him in two consecutive terms and he was very helpful in servicing our political education and training sub-committee programs.

The deferment of his dream means that we will always miss his social and political activism to transform Sedibeng for the better. His respect for ANC will be greatly remembered and there should not be any doubt that he is going to be well received by revolutionary martyrs and ancestors of the ANC.

Au Revoir!

Lala ngoxolo Mxo!

Slap on the wrist for gross misdemeanor and intellectually mediocrity

I happen to be a resident of Vaal being born from the dusty streets of Small farm, molded and brewed by unforgettable history of poverty but still never lost hope that the sun will shine one day. God permitted for me to conclude my matric and elevate to another height of education Vaal technikon at that time '2000' which was steered by Prof Mokadi.

I arrived there and became an ordinary student like any other student who was willing to make something of himself in benefit of his community in general and his family in particular. I must confess that the historical happenings of then shaped me to be an activist that I am today and I remain indebted to VUT. It is here that I learned that mediocre is not tolerated in society as I saw a departure of Prof Mokadi due to alleged failure to provide leadership hence the misappropriation of public funds.

Many followed in acting after him until the appointment of Prof Moutloana as the Vice Chancellor, honestly I might not be privy to the terms of her appointment but I want to believe

that institutional transformation is but one of her Key Performance Indicators which will speak to issues of co-governance with student governance, parents and community as to ensure that issues of the language policy, transformation charter, academic policy residence policy and many other policies reflect the general population of the institution.

I must say when I left the institution just when her appointment was to be done I was jovial of the fact that there is a woman VC in transit to steer the institution after the institution had been broiled in many controversies of institutional leadership. Her arrival brought about hope as we the community of Vaal have high regard for the institution especially as we are a developmental area which relies on skilled people in general and youth in particular to achieve our strategic objective as Vaal.

The news that implicated the Vice Chancellor really brought sadness to me and I believe to the community at large and we were happy when a commission was instituted as it was to



Sipho Mokake
Student through life-long learning

bring sanity into the whole miasma. Now that Arbitration award is out and I have gone through it in-terms of studying it and I feel that something is amiss in terms of the outcome that suggest she gets a final warning as a sanction.

If one follows the series of events in terms of the appointment of the MPL as a consulting company one will realise that this does not come close to negligence as she was directly involved in the events leading to the appointment of MPL, the fact that MPL was

allowed to predetermine the tender specifications which in turn gave them favorable advantage over other bidders, secondly is that she allowed them to do work before their appointment which tells us that it was fore- concluded that they will get it.

In the series of events it appears that they were given a tender for certain amount of money R486 000 but there was a deviation of more than 100% which even the rectorate refuses to own as they claim they were never close to or kept abreast with developments. The VC then becomes opportunistic in pushing things to the CFO instead of taking responsibility to own to the mess as the accounting officer of one of the biggest institution that accounts for more than 21 000 population.

My view is that the sanction of final warning as proposed is a clear indication that intellectual mediocrity pays which is what we as the community of Vaal do not agree with as we have come a long into building a credible institution that it is today. This does not only go to rectorate that wants to cleanse itself at the expense of one person 'VC' but also goes to student governance that it is time they bel serious and lead the interests of the students.

If student leadership can understand their call and that theirs is not to be in glamorous suits, enjoying benefits that makes them to be above student but understand that the hopes of students and the community of Vaal at large is on their shoulders will learn to charge on their mandate with integrity like former leadership of Tshindane, Malemane, Jason Mkhwane and Makhosonke did. That will help them to live with clear conscious with no fear that spooks of the past will follow them.

It is therefore a high time that when the institution is about to have new leadership of council that it be people who understand dynamics of the institution of high leaning, who understand that the immediate task is to transform the institution i.e. racism in the engineering department, addressing the residence issue of students, contextualizing the continuation of study policy, transforming the access policy, the privatization of Cafeteria which makes the student wellbeing to be a living hell and providing necessary support to student governance so they can properly influence decisions in council without being outsmarted fiscally.

The Need for Political Education



By: Vusi Dakie



It is now becoming vivid in our midst that the ANC wants to achieve something on education. The history of the ANC is important especially to its members as it provides the vision on how it was founded. The society that does not have the basis of education perishes because knowledge is the backbone of human nature. It is incumbent upon us that we invest our resources in education in an endeavour to produce leaders and cadres who will be able to take the baton forward.

Firstly let us address the three general aspects pertaining to the aims of political education. What is political education all about and what purpose does it serve? The second is about the value of political education from the organizational point of view and lastly the need for a politically informed ANC cadre. These are the questions noted by comrade Kgalema Motlanthe as the Head of Political Education and Training Unit. He brings to the fore the spectrum at which many of our comrades need to understand when taking decisions of becoming students in various levels of our political schools.

Responding to these questions means that one needs to make self-analysis in terms of what contribution you can add after graduating in the movement. Results alone do not add up to the type of society we want to change. The bigger picture we want to achieve lies within the type of a cadre who understands the

The ANC during the January 12th statement declared education an essential and societal issue. The 53rd ANC National Conference resolved on a 10 years of Cadre Development. The 2009 January 8th Statement says: "An important aspect of a successful developmental state is the capacity of public servants to execute the tasks with which they have been entrusted. This means that the right personnel should be placed in the correct positions. Where this is not the case, government should implement corrective measures, through training and redeployment.

dynamics of the society he leads. At this era the ANC is not obliged to fulfil its members ambitions and dreams rather provide its members the opportunity where all members need to contribute effortlessly for the realization of a better society.

It is notable that our society is divided into One of the key focus areas for any member of the ANC is a clear understanding of the history of the struggle of our people and the history of the ANC. AN ANC cadre needs to develop an understanding of how the movement operates and where is the movement heading. Internal processes are the basis of the foundation in which all cadres should be capacitated on. Part of the political education framework is to deepen an internal process that encompasses discipline and ideological understanding.

We cannot as the ANC continue being the leader of society when our own members do not want to be led by the very same society we lead. Comrade Lenin says "Practice without theory is blind and theory without practice is sterile". Comrade Lenin took a glance look at the manner in which revolution changes from one power to the next with static type of leadership. Comfort zones within positions of power by very limited education and resources within a very short space of time but afforded long periods to lead and educate the society.

It is in this note why comrade Kgalema Motlanthe felt we need to change the manner in which we approach our political education. Political education is from his point of view the liberation movement developed to address the dynamics embedded in the socio-economics nature of society. The aims of political education are not just the abstractions developed in a vacuum or out of keeping with the historical context of society. They are about producing a cadre who is geared to play a particular role in advancing the interests of society. We need to afford ourselves the opportunity and work on developing ourselves political and otherwise, in so doing the ANC will no-longer suffer from deploying comrades in strategic positions in government on the basis that we lack certain skills.

We cannot run away from the fact that the society we live in is divided into classes and historically fissured along many other lines, including gender and race, at the level of what is commonly called the superstructure. Now as a result political education is meant to enhance our understanding of the structure of society, however it does not stop there, the curriculum we learn from political education school should equip us with the intellectual and political tools not only to develop a deeper understanding of history but most importantly

to change society. You will recall that even Karl Marx's eleventh thesis says that Philosophers have only described the world in different ways, the point however is to change it.

In this historical dispensation the ANC is confronted with many challenges by its own members who claim to know it because they have learnt the history of the ANC in various levels of political education schools. Comrade Motlanthe reminds us that what we have learnt from these political schools is not for us only but for those who will come to us for advice and help.

To further clarify my point on why the need for political education let me share with you the following citation by cde Moses Kotane on education ...

"Proper education is a mirror in which man sees the world around him and learns to understand it. The right kind of education enables man to see what the world has been, what it is and how it can change to suit him or his way of living. Education can be and has been used to befuddle the minds of the common people. But education can also be used as an instrument in the struggle for freedom and human progress. It is this kind of education which we need. We must learn geography to understand the universe, that

there are other countries besides our own and to know the people of different of nationalities inhabiting these countries. We must learn history to know and understand the story of man's development through the ages. The various forms of social organization and the causes of the rise and fall of those forms of human relationships.

Now as I have submitted earlier why the need for political education let us use education to transcend past limitations and a totally new worldview or outlook. Without political education we can easily stagnate and end up lacking vital and relevant platforms where we are able to engage in a festival of ideas. This stagnation will leave our members bewildered and exposed to all sort of false and misleading ideas.

As ANC members we are obliged by the values and principles which our movement embraces from time to time and we must lift these values and principles in whatever we do, whatever we are. Let us also portray such exemplary behaviour in the eyes of society and lift the flag of the ANC high in various and respective political education schools.

Each one ... teach one

Alutta continua

A prayer for Madiba and substance abuse

Organized by ANCWL RTT





Nelisiwe
Mbatha-Moerane



The ANC Women's League in Sedibeng finds it befitting to celebrate the life of our legend, hero, icon and the father of the nation Nelson Tata Mandela. Our focus was on the role he played in our region, we can remember that in the early 50's comrade Mandela together with the Sedibeng leadership... bontateDadabhy, ntateMabuwafelaThabethe, bo bra LevaiMbatha le babangbabangata worked to organize and mobilize our community against the high payments of bus fares which led to AZIKHWELWA bus boycott in 1956.

When we remember, Sharpeville massacre prompted Mandela to leave the country to train to be a soldier and he came back and formed UMKHONTOWESIZWE(LERUMO LA SECHABA) and he became the commander in chief, thereafter a lot of comrades left the country to be trained as soldiers. In 1990, through the campaigns that were held across the country which demanded the release of Mandela, We saw De Klerk and his cabinet signing the documents for the release of our comrades; we also saw unbanning of political parties that was because of ntate Nelson Mandela. In our region we also saw a lot of politicians being released from prison and others coming back from exile, bontateDadabhy, ntate Mabuwafela, Docus Raditsela, Edith Lethlake came back from exile and ntateLevaiMbathawho spent twenty years in Robben Island was released, also the release of the Delmas trial to mention but a few. We can also remember that in our region we had comrades who were sentenced to death. Namely...

1. The late Comrade David GundaTsawane
2. Comrade Daniel Oupa Maleka

The Sharpeville six

1. Reginald Sefatsa
2. The late Duma Khumalo
3. Teresa Ramashemola
4. The late Francis Mokgesi
5. The late Moses Diniso
6. Riet Mokoena

These comrades were all released before Mandela.

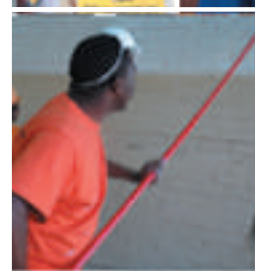
We also saw Tata coming to our rescue when people were moaned down by IFP on their way from a rally at zone 7 stadium, we also saw him when our people were moaned in Sebokeng hostel, he was there for us again. On the 21st of March 1992 in Miami Beach at Sharpeville the ANC Women's League gave Tata a blanket which is called SEAPARANKOE which is worn by kings only.

That reminded me of our late ANC Women's league leadership of that time, bommemaru, bo ma Lehlekiso, bomaLefiedile bo ma Letanta to mention but a few... let their souls rest in peace. On that day we heard about the untimely death of our comrade Saul Tsotetsi, that was followed by Boipatong massacre which made Tata Madiba and the team to pull out of the negotiations (CODESA) after considering the blood that was shed by the people of Sedibeng... They later came back and agreed upon the GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY as an interim government and the date of the first democratic elections; which was the 27th April 1994.

In 1996 after the elections, the first black president of our country came to Sharpeville to sign the constitution of our country, which brought back the dignity of our African people and ended apartheid and brought in democracy. The hopes and aspirations of millions of South Africans were born on the day the constitution was given life here at Sedibeng. In 1999 1 May he visited the people of Sedibeng in kwaMasiza that been his final visit as the head of state in our region in recognition and remembrance of the people of the Vaal who fought, sacrificed their lives and died for freedom of all peace loving South Africans.

Lekoa Vaal Metropolitan Council conferred the freedom of the Vaal to Tata Madiba, that's when he named the civic centre in Vereeniging: A CONSTITUTIONAL SQUARE. We will forever appreciate what Tata has done for our region and that we are proud of him for being part of us in the alliance that is why we need to emulate the character of Tata to our youth, let our youth stay away from drugs and go to school, let them take responsibility of their lives and participate to change the country because they are our future. Madiba's legacy leaves freedom for South African nation and women dignity restoration, despite him being a king by birth, a national and international figure. He was always with us... WE LOVE YOU MADIBA!

WHAT IS REMAINING FOR US TODAY.. IS TO CHANGE THE QUALITY OF LIVES OF SOUTH AFRICANS AND THE CONTINENT AND MAKE OUR COUNTRY A BETTER PLACE TO BE.
ALUTA CONTINUA!!!!!!



An Icon that has stood the test of time

There is something very special about the month of July and this will indeed remain so for a very long time to come. The month saw the deliverance to humanity as a whole- of one of the rarest human beings that ever lived; the birth of Rolihlahla Nelson Mandela, Madiba to use his clan name. Mandela might not have directly or materially contributed to persons outside of the borders of South Africa but what cannot be in dispute is that he continues to possess an immense global influence on how people relate to each other, how they resolve intricate challenges and how they embrace and turn around enemies to become their friends. Tata Mandela has done it all, with distinction!

Perhaps the most difficult part in celebrating Mandela's 95th birthday is identifying or finding something to give that he will appreciate and cherish for as long as he lived. Besides the fact that the man has about everything that he wants he still gets thousands of gifts the year around from Politicians in and outside the country, Celebrities, Sports personalities, Non-governmental organisations and whoever else whose standing and intentions are noble enough to warrant granting of an audience with the nonagenarian.

Yet Mandela is a different man. Mandela will give attention to the smallest of the gifts he receives. He will listen and give full attention to the most ordinary person that he comes across. Mandela will dine and say the things that make peasantry feel important and that is precisely where the greatness of the man manifests itself, that's what makes Mandela so special. That is what makes him a leader par-excellence and that is what makes him the envy of the world over.

In his book, *Leading Like Madiba*, author Martin Kalungu-Banda quotes an instance during Mandela's presidency where a head of a multinational company secured an appointment to see the president at his official residence in Pretoria. Needless to say the company CEO was chauffeur-driven to the appointment. When they arrive there, they found Mandela waiting outside to welcome them. Mr Jones got off the car and shook Mandela's hand while the driver looked for parking. After an exchange of a few pleasantries, they sat down hopefully to enjoy their lunch starters but before they were served, Mandela asked, Excuse me I thought there were two of you. What happened to your companion? Oh no, he's waiting for me in the car, came the answer.

Mandela instructed Jones to invite the driver in while at the same time he went to the kitchen to order one more plate for the additional visitor. Kalungu-Banda quotes Jones as having been "thoroughly" embarrassed by the whole episode. Not only that, in the course of the (lunch) meeting Mandela turned to the driver and inquired about his family background, wife and children and wanted to know whether his parents were still alive.

Apparently the driver went back home (to rural areas) where he slaughtered an animal to celebrate having shaken hands with Mandela. To him the "unthinkable" had happened. These are the sort of things that wild dreams are made of. His immediate boss at the multinational had never once wanted to know about his family, in spite of having been working there for seven years. And the lesson learned there was that people matter as people before they have any titles. Of course there are many other instances involving Mandela that leave everyone awed with envy and inspiration.

"I do not believe that names are destiny or that my father somehow divined my future but in later years, friends and relatives would ascribe to my birth name the many storms I have caused and weathered," Mandela writes. It is a moot point to attempt to attach a significance to Mandela's reference to his birth as having come during or at the close of the First World War, or at the outbreak of the influenza epidemic that killed millions of people throughout the world, or for that matter, his observation that he was born during a visit to the Versailles Peace Conference in France by an ANC delegation to voice the grievances of the African People relating to their dispossessed land. In the absence of the benefit of establishing from him why this reference was ever made and therefore important, it might suffice to say that there are two distinct features of this reference; the close of the First World War (and people dying of an epidemic), and also a Peace Conference. These two features, war and dying on the one hand, and peace on the other were to become pivotal in Mandela's later life as he successfully and single-handedly avoided the mass spilling of blood during the trying days leading up to the democratization of the country. Mandela chose and pursued the road of peace throughout his life. And this is how he will be remembered, the man of peace. Others will argue that there was a time in his life when he went underground to orchestrate the liberation struggle and that during his final trial before being sent to Robben Island, he had pronounced himself



By: Thami Mgudlwa



ready to fight "In order to liberate my people". That was a noble deed. You side with the vulnerable and if it means picking up arms in pursuance of this course so be it. Not too many people know that Mandela is in fact of Royal descent. In the bigger scheme of things and if he were born in a normal society, Mandela would have been a contented chief of the AbaThembu. He would have enjoyed milk and honey brought to him and his House by his subjects. But his calling lay somewhere else, somewhere beyond his immediate surroundings. He was destined to play a much bigger role; liberate the whole of South Africa, not only black people but whites as well. One cannot always resist the temptation to want to compare Mandela to the role played by Moses of the Biblical era and the children of Israel. Interestingly enough, both men are quoted in one of the best-selling publications: *Speeches that changed the world*, by Simon Sebag Montefiore. There are over 100 speeches quoted in the book, but the one that headlines the 240 page publication is Mandela's history making delivery in the dock "I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and see realised but my Lord, if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die for".

Although Mandela retired from the presidency in 1999, 14 years later he is still seen as the man who made the magic work and somehow the guarantor that it will go on working. Mandela is one of few statesmen to have achieved almost universal respect around the world and across the globe as the man who delivered South Africa from the ravages of apartheid, against seemingly impossible odds

as a peacemaker and statesman of the highest possible calibre.

The Nelson Mandela Foundation was founded by Nelson Mandela soon after he stepped down as President of South Africa in 1999. Its mission was to support his continuing work for a wide range of charitable causes. In 2006 the Foundation's Board of Trustees adopted a new vision for the organisation: the Foundation, through its Centre of Memory as its core work, contributes to the making of a just society by promoting the vision, values and work of its Founder and by convening dialogue around critical social issues. The Centre delivers to the world an integrated information resource on the life and times of Nelson Mandela and draws on this resource to provide a safe and non-partisan space for public discourse.

South Africans from all walks of life have embarked on numerous development projects organised by the corporate world, the government, nongovernmental organisations and schools. The concept of Mandela Day started in 2009 after the UN declared the elder statesman's birthday International Mandela Day. The declaration of the UN General Assembly affirms the manner in which this important day touched the international community and, once again, recognises the immense contribution Madiba made to humanity across the globe.

The office of the ANC Chief Whip in Emfuleni joins South Africans and the world at large in wishing the father of the nation a happy and healthy 95th birthday. In embracing and nurturing his legacy the Office last year embarked on a programme that changed the living conditions of a needy and vulnerable pensioner (David Serehanye) in Zone 11 Sebokeng. The programme was made possible by a number of sponsors who partnered with us including the Ward Councillor (Thulo), Ward Committee Members, CDW and student volunteers from the University of North West and the ANC branch leadership, it was led by Whippy. The Office of the Chief Whip is activist in nature and will at all times be involved in community development initiatives that are aimed at changing both the outlook of communities and lives of ordinary people in particular the needy.

This year the Women's Caucus in partnership with Sebokeng Parliamentary Constituency Office identified Vukuzenzele Old Age Home in Zone 14 and Age in Action in Zone 13 Sebokeng respectively. The activities performed on the day at Vukuzenzele include; cleaning of the place, Preparing food for 72 residents of the centre, Gardening and

Painting. The Chief Whip, Eric Tshabalala accompanied by Women's Caucus Interim leadership under the stewardship of Cllr Dimakatso Malisa and Member of Provincial Legislature Nelisiwe Moerane handed over blankets and heaters after all activities were successfully completed after which they immediately went to Age in Action where they handed over another set of blankets. The Office would like to extend its appreciation to all participants who made this Day a Success; Women's Caucus, Sebokeng PCO Councillor's Forum, Centre Managers from the two Old Age homes; Ms Tyandela and Pretorius, Community Workers Programme, ANC branches in the Zone and Volunteers respectively, "Our veracity and character must without doubt help us to always see light where there isn't any in endeavouring to change the world for the better and this we must pursue with unparalleled vigour and zest".

The July month is a month of service to others, important day and appropriate time to reflect on the way in which we serve others. Sixty-Seven Minutes representing the number of years Nelson Mandela has devoted his time to the service of humanity.

In his own words; "I am fundamentally an optimist. Whether that comes from nature or nurture, I cannot say. Part of being optimistic is keeping one's head pointed toward the sun, one's feet moving forward. There were many dark moments when my faith in humanity was sorely tested, but I would not and could not give myself up to despair. That way lies defeat and death". It is the spirit of giving and sharing that will change our world. It is this changed world that will make Madiba smile.

Wits University Vice –Chancellor Designate, Professor Adam Habib says, "Great leaders are born in a particular moment and context but the context does not produce all people as great. I don't think you could have had a Mandela outside South Africa and particularly a Mandela of the 1970s and 80s. Great leaders are born in a context but contexts don't always produce great leaders".

Mandela's leadership qualities are indeed unequalled and he will remain an exceptional leader.

The Office of the Chief Whip will continue annually to be at the forefront of the Nelson Mandela Activities, working with various communities to inculcate moral values and build a caring society through noble causes of ordinary South Africans.

Take Action; Get Involved; Inspire Change and make everyday a Mandela Day!

Hostel dwellers are to benefit from the mixed income social and rental housing units which are built on well-located land with services and within a 30 - 45 minutes journey to work that uses less than 8% of disposable income for transport. Upgrading of Masiza Hostel to a mixed income social and rental housing units.



The Road traversed since the advent of democracy



	EMFULENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY CONSTRUCTION OF SANJUKU STREET SIDEWALKS AND STOOPMASTER
	CONSULTING ENGINEER TEL: 011 464 4482 KING AND ASSOCIATES
	CONTRACTOR TEL: 011 464 4482 LKHMOHALE CONSTRUCTION (Pty) Ltd
	PROJECT FINANCED BY EMFULENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

In the 2009 general elections, the ANC focused on the five national priorities – creating decent work and sustainable livelihoods; education; health; rural development and agrarian reform and the fight against crime and corruption.

In localising priorities of the 2009 Manifesto and meeting key challenges facing our communities we had thus traversed the road together and met head on with many challenges hence our communities have shown and demonstrated dissatisfaction by

protestations.

We would like to draw attention to our electorates to take a glance look at some of the projects that took place during these 19 years of democracy. We admit that as the ANC government we have done very little and we continue to commit ourselves into building local economies to create more employment decent work and sustainable livelihoods, improve local public services and broaden access, build more united, non-racial, integrated and safer communities, promote

public participation in local government and ensure effective, accountable and clean local government that works together with national and provincial government.

Over the past we have managed to improve and sustained economic growth, unemployment and inequality remain high hence we are pleading with our voters, public and private sector to join us in working together to finding solutions and building better communities.



“I have walked that long road to freedom. I have tried not to falter; I have made missteps along the way. But I have discovered the secret that after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can only rest for a moment, for with freedom come responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my long walk is not ended.”
— Nelson Mandela

