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# News

June 2019 Vol. 2 No. 4

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YOUTH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## YOUTH EMPOWERMENT: A COUNTRY IMPERATIVE

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UMTELEBHELO

## HORSE RACING EXTRAVAGANZA IN KWAMPANDE

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# All set for Msunduzi Cup



Brian Shoarane, Thuthu Mkhize (Supertech), Younis Kadodia (Maritzburg United CEO), Brilliant Mkhathini (AmaZulu Media Officer), Thulani Ntombela (Supertech) and Lebogang Mokoena (Mkoena Group Chief Director) (Photo: Qhelani Msweli)

By QHELANI MSWELI

**T**HIS weekend of 20 July 2019 will see the much-anticipated inaugural Msunduzi Cup at Harry Gwala Stadium. Local football fans will be given a glimpse of what to expect next season from three KwaZulu-Natal clubs, namely AmaZulu, Lamontville Golden Arrows and Maritzburg United as well as the Johannesburg powerhouse Bidvest Wits. There are just a couple of weeks to go before the official start of the 2019/20 PSL season, with pre-season preparations in full swing. It is also the time when new players are signed, and as such, fans in attendance at the Harry Gwala Stadium will get a first look at some of their club's exciting latest additions in action. Lebogang Mokoena, Chief Director of the Mkoena Group, organisers of this tournament, said they decided to organize this spectacle because of the love of football

they saw from Maritzburg United fans when they attended its Premier Soccer League matches. He said: "Most provinces in the country have pre-season events such as these and we felt that there was an opportunity to get KwaZulu-Natal involved more especially in Pietermaritzburg. After all, it is one of the hotbeds of football talent in South Africa and we have no doubt this tournament will be a success". This is the first ever KZN pre-season tournament to feature exclusively Premier Soccer League (PSL) clubs. Mokoena said they plan to make this an annual event, with next year set to feature three PSL teams and one Invitational team made of local players scouted all around Msunduzi region. It will potentially be utilised as a platform for young up and



coming footballers from the local region to make a name for themselves. The tournament is expected to draw a full capacity crowd of 12000. "The good thing is that the tickets which are R80 for adults and R40 for kids are selling like hotcakes at Computicket. It will be a family day, we will be having a jumping castle for kids," said Mokoena. Fans can expect a lot of entertainment from the likes of Sphectacula and Dj Naves, Dj Thanda, Dj Chofy and Tribe of Africa. Mokoena said they were grateful for the support they received from Msunduzi Municipality in terms of facilities (Harry Gwala Stadium), BMW Supertech Pietermaritzburg for providing them with cars for roadshows to market this event, Hollywoodbets for providing water amongst other things and

KZN Department of Sport and Recreation for paying the appearance fees of the clubs. He declined to disclose how much appearance fee has been paid to each team. Thulani Ntombela from BMW Supertech said, "We decided to get involved because we love our city and fans are our customers, it's a better way to advertise our brand." Maritzburg United Chief Executive Officer Younis Kadodia said they are pleased to take part in the pre-season tournament on home soil, "Historically we used to go out of the province and prepare for pre-season, but this is a great initiative for KZN. Since it will be hosted in Harry Gwala stadium, there's extra pressure on us to keep the trophy here, but that's exactly what we plan to do." The first semi-final will feature Maritzburg United against AmaZulu at 10am and the second semi-final will feature Golden Arrows against Bidvest Wits at 12am with the final scheduled for 17h00. The gate open at 8am.



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# Youth empowerment:

## UMsunduzi doing its part in ensuring youth development beyond Youth Day

By **NHLANHLA MTAKA**

**T**HE relationship between society and youth development is complex. Nevertheless, it has been possible to describe a clear leitmotif in this relationship: the tension between, on the other hand, the belief in the strength, innovative changes and improvements of, and, the youth and, on the other hand, the fear of change and arguably, increased loss of norms. This paradox is not particular to South Africa, nor to the current generation of young people. It is the paradox that probably applies in every age and every culture.

Registering this point in her paper "An overview of Youth Policy", Helen Suzman Foundation researcher Anele Mtswesi on images of youth submitted that It is important to be mindful of how a country views its young people. This largely has an impact on how it deals with its youth. "The country's perception of its youth is an important factor both at the policy making level and as a view of how society responds to youth issues. The image of 'youth as a resource' prevails in periods of stability, economic growth and societal reforms. When youth is considered as such, they represent the idealised future, are the receptacles of the values that each generation transmits to the next, and, therefore, they are a societal resource which are given the best opportunities for development and growth.

"Youth can also be perceived with a contrasting image of 'youth as a problem' which prevails in periods of economic crisis, political instability, and when youth in society and in the media is presented as "dangerous", "deviant", "criminal", "violent". With this image youth is perceived as a source of danger or a period of vulnerability in response to which protective measures must be devised."

Youth development is regarded as an urgent and complex challenge facing post-apartheid South Africa. Twenty-five years after the official transition to democracy, it is young people who are severely affected by negative socio-economic factors such as HIV /AIDS, high levels of unemployment, poverty, unplanned pregnancies and lack of participation in politics.

Policy wise, there is no doubt that South Africa committed to



Youth taking advantage of the Fourth Industrial Revolution

creating an enabling environment for youth participation in policy formulation. As a result of this commitment to youth participation, the National Youth Policy Framework 2002-2007 was developed. While it was not prescriptive, the policy established national principles and objectives, and identified strategic interventions for national departments and local


**DID YOU KNOW?**

The National Youth Commission (NYC) Act (1996) established the National Youth Commission as the statutory body responsible for youth policy. It was replaced by the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), established by Act No. 54 of 2008. The Integrated Youth Development Strategy (IYDS) seeks to streamline youth economic development, integrating policies such as the National Industrial Policy Framework (NIPF) with the National Youth Policy. The NYDA is also linked to the National Youth Service Policy Framework, which promotes youth volunteering as a way for youth to contribute to development, build skills and develop abilities. Both the NYP and IYDS are influenced by the National Youth Development Policy Framework of 2002-2007. In 2009, South Africa also ratified the African Youth Charter.



municipalities. At the time (from 1994 - 2007), five main documents were critical as they gave guarantee for community / youth participation at local level. These documents were; the South African Constitution Act 108 of 1996, the White Paper on Local Government (1998), the Municipal Structures Act of 1998, the Municipal Systems Act of 2000 and the National Youth Policy of 2000.

The Constitution states in chapter 7, section 152 (e), that among the objectives of local government is to encourage the involvement of communities and community organizations in matters of local government. The White Paper stipulates that municipalities must work with all sectors



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# A country imperative

of the community to build a shared vision to set goals for development. The Municipality Structures Act 1998, section 19(2) states that municipalities must annually review priorities and processes that involve communities. The Municipal Systems Act 2000, Chapter Three on the other hand encourages municipalities to develop “culture of participatory governance and must for this purpose encourage and create conditions for residents, communities and other stakeholders in the municipality to participate in the local affairs.

The National Youth Policy 2000 recognizes local government as a critical partner in youth development. The policy encourages local government to design mechanisms for the creation of youth services and facilities as well as identifying the needs and development opportunities for the youth. It spells out a number of roles municipalities can play in the development of their areas of jurisdictions including the institutionalization of youth development in municipalities by establishing standing committees on youth matters to sensitize council on issues affecting youth.

Secondly, by creating participatory measures to target the youth in general and disadvantaged youth in particular.

Thirdly, by engaging local youth organizations in development programs towards a developmental local government. Finally, identifying needs for local facilities in pursuance of youth development and through partnership with key stakeholders such as other spheres of government, youth organizations, private sectors and donors.

## Beyond Youth Day

There is a consensus that beyond celebrating Youth Day on the 16th of June each year, South African youth are faced with many challenges beyond this historic and important day in the historiography of South Africa. Currently the country has the National Youth Policy 2020(NYP).

The NYP 2020 builds on South Africa's first NYP, which covered the period 2009–2014. It improves upon and updates the previous policy by speaking to the new challenges that South Africa's youth face, while acknowledging that more needs to be done to address the challenges identified in the previous NYP.

The policy is informed by the South African Constitution, the United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and beyond, the African Youth Charter (2006), the National Development Plan (NDP) (2012) and various other policies. The NDP is anchored on the constitution's vision of a prosperous, democratic, non-sexist, non-racist and equal society. By 2030, the plan seeks to create an inclusive society that builds the capability of its active citizenry.

On the other hand, based on NYP, the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), through its Youth Development Program, placed intense focus on youth upliftment. SALGA Youth Development Program provides a platform for municipalities to address five issues, namely:

- Economic participation and transformation;
- Education and second chances;
- Healthcare and combating substance abuse;
- Nation building and social cohesion;
- Effective and responsive youth development.

Explaining the association's approach, Director of SALGA's Youth Development Program, Mandu Mallane says that, notwithstanding 20 years of youth development intervention, the desired outcomes have not been realized, particularly when it comes to youth unemployment.

“To address these high levels of unemployment, particularly among youth cohort, extraordinary measures will be

## DID YOU KNOW?

The South African Youth Council (SAYC) was founded in 1997. It is an autonomous, non-partisan umbrella association for youth organisations. According to its 2010 report, South African Youth Council: “Towards a Coordinated and Integrated Youth Development,” it is governed by a National Executive Committee comprising of Provincial Chairpersons and Secretaries. SAYC represents youth in forums including the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC), the South African National AIDS Council (SANAC), and the National Skills Authority (NSA).

required’ says Mallane.

“As a developmental state, government must lead the charge by creating an enabling environment for youth development through policy and legislation, implementing programs targeted specifically at youth development incentivizing private sector participation in youth development and ensuring effective monitoring and evaluation of all youth development activities.”

During its 5th National Conference SALGA resolved the following on youth in Local Government:

- Establishment of SALGA Youth Commission
- Establishment of youth business chambers in every municipality
- Provide capacity development for youth at all levels
- Advocate for youth direct support and activities
- Create platforms for youth dialogues
- Apply an integrated approach to youth issues

In addition to NYP, SALGA has been leading the development of integrated Youth Development Strategy (IYDS) 2020.

In addition to NYP, SALGA has been leading the development of integrated Youth Development Strategy (IYDS) 2020.

It is clear that the issue of youth economic development is not just a South African problem but a continental one. Lack of youth economic development in South Africa is indicated by the level of unemployment. Research has shown that youth unemployment in South Africa is staggering. It has increased from 54.7% in the fourth quarter of 2018 to 55.2% in the first quarter of 2019.

The unemployment rate is highest among people aged 15 to 34, according to Statistics South Africa. The picture becomes even more sanding if analysed along demographic patterns. Furthermore, the 2018 World Economic Forum (WEF) report, The Future of Jobs and Skills in Africa, stated that Sub-Saharan Africa has a global share of high-skilled employment of only 6%, in contrast to the global average of 24%. It is forecast that with the impending disruption to jobs and skills brought about by the fourth industrial revolution (4IR) 9% of core skills required across occupations in South Africa will be wholly different by 2020.

There is a tremendous burden on the country's education system to prepare school leavers for an uncertain future. Urgent reskilling and upskilling efforts are needed for higher education and adult learning curriculums. South Africa is rich in policy frameworks on youth development. What remains crucial is the creation of a transition from a sound policy framework to actual reduction of lack of youth development. All these issues point to the fact that the country faces an urgent imperative for youth development.

## Youth Policies, Institutions and Legislative Instruments

### National Youth Development Act (2008):

The Act makes provisions for the establishment of the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA): This is an entity having resonance with youth development in South Africa. The Act also provides for the functions and objectives; management and governance; regulation of staff and financial affairs; and administration of funds in the NYDA.

### National Youth Development Agency:

The NYDA is tasked with initiating, designing, co-ordinating, evaluating and monitoring, and providing oversight to all programs aimed at integrating youth; developing and integrating Youth Development Plan and Strategy (IYDS); developing guidelines for the implementation of an Integrated National Youth Development Policy and making recommendations to the President; guiding efforts and facilitating economic participation and empowerment, and the achievement of education and training; partnering and assisting organs of state, private sector and non-governmental organisations on initiatives directed at employment and skills development; initiating programmes directed at poverty alleviation, urban and rural development and the combating of crime, substance abuse and social decay amongst youth; establishing annual national priority programs in respect of youth development; and undertaking to promote the interests of youth, particularly young people with disabilities.

### National Youth Policy (2009-2014):

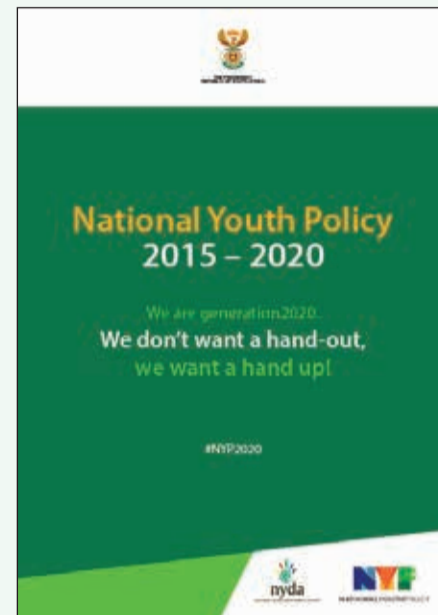
This is aimed at closing identified gaps, addressing challenges and recommending new measures to improve and accelerate the implementation of youth policy under the following four pillars – education, health and wellbeing, economic participation and social cohesion.

### Integrated Youth Development Strategy (2011):

The IYDS strategy identified challenges and opportunities for youth as identified by a cross-section of stakeholders, including professional bodies, government departments, civil society, NGOs and youth formations. This also involved drawing information from various domestic and international instruments, public and research reports. The objective of which was the development of an integrated strategy that responds to the economic structure as discussed in key national policy frameworks including among others;

The IYDS strategy identified challenges and opportunities for youth as identified National Industrial Policy Framework (NIPF), Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP), National Growth Path (NGP), National Skills

**National Planning Commission Deputy Minister Buti Manamela**



Development-South Africa (NSD-SA), National Youth Policy (NYP), and NSDS III.

### National Skills Development Strategy III:

Aims to increase access to high quality and relevant education and training and skills development opportunities. These include workplace learning and experience, to enable effective participation in the economy and society.

### Employment Tax Incentive Act, 2013: (“Youth Wage Subsidy”):

The objective of this is to encourage employment creation and growth (especially in relation to young work seekers), and is a way of sharing the cost of expanding job opportunities with the private sector.

### Youth Employment Accord:

Seeks to improve education and skilling of young people, helping them to find jobs or start their own businesses. As part of the accord, government commits itself to increasing the number of people employed in the public sector, while certain industries have set youth development targets. All parties (government, organised labour, organised business, and community and youth formations) agree to implement a coordinated Youth Employment Strategy (YES).







Youth are the future of the city, province and country



# Msunduzi funds youth in business

By **QHELANI MSWELI**

**A**S South Africa was celebrating Youth Month, Msunduzi Municipality was out in full force celebrating the successes of businesses run by young people. The businesses are funded by the municipal programme through youth office's Entrepreneurship Development Programme.

National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) in partnership with the Msunduzi Youth Centre through its Grant Programme provide young entrepreneurs with an opportunity to access both financial and non-financial business development support in order to enable them to establish or grow their businesses. The programme will focus on youth entrepreneurs who are at promising and new stages of enterprise development.

The programme is available for uMsunduzi residents and surrounding areas especially those that do not have Youth offices such as uMsinga. Thinamazwane Zwane NYDA Business coordinator said, "The Grant programme only caters for sustainable businesses that operate weekly and it does not fund 'sin' businesses such as alcohol, cigarettes business and it does not fund tenders, vehicles, properties."

The grant comes in the form of equipment, the value of the grant starting from R1 000 to R100 000; a new business can be granted between R1 000 and R10 000, already existing business can be granted between R10 000 and R50 000. Lastly, improving an existing profitable business start from R50 000 to R100 000.

Msunduzi Youth Centre and NYDA alongside Msunduzi News visited the youth



**Nomvelo Gwala-Zwane (Izoso Connect owner) and Thinamazwane Zwane (NYDA Business Coordinator)** (Photo: Qhelani Msweli)

businesses that were supported by the grant programme to see how they are doing since they received the grant. Some of the businesses that are funded by the grant are Izoso Connect (Central town), DaBriam Photography (in Edendale Mall) and Queen B Laundromat which is still busy with application process for the grant.

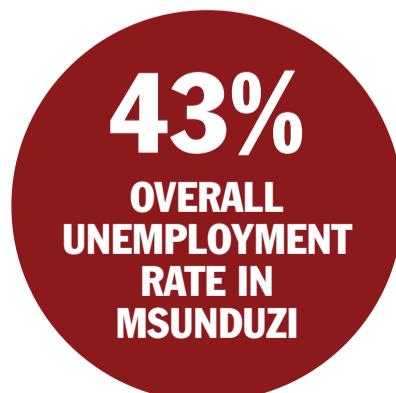
Nomvelo Gwala-Zwane owner of Izoso Connect a fast food business which received a grant of R48 000 worth of equipment. She started her business in September 2015, she firstly went to Msunduzi Youth office where she met Thinamazwane Zwane, who told her about application process for the grant, she went for a 3-day training, then went for a grant assessment, she then applied for the grant of which she was granted.

"The grant truly assisted me a lot; the funding made a huge difference in growing my business because the fridge, food warmer, 150 litre pots, basin with sink was funded by NYDA. As a result, my business has grown I now have 4 employees," said Nomvelo.

Nobuhle Konjane from Grange recently applied for the grant, runs a laundry business called Queen B Laundromat in Victoria street. She opened her business in 2018, but due to high volume of clients with limited resources to services them makes it difficult for her to reach her potential.

Therefore, she applied for funding, in that way she can add more washing and drying machines to enable her and the team to service all the clients.

"We have a lot of clients and they are happy with our service, but due to machine shortages it becomes difficult to work. If we can get the grant we can grow the business and service all our clients and our working environment will be better," said Nobuhle.





# Water and sanitation problems addressed

Msunduzi's Municipality plans to deal with burst water pipes and sanitation



Overflowing sewer manholes and water leaks (Photos: DUCT / Ian Carbutt)



By **QHELANI MSWELI and NOKULUNGA NGOBESE**

**M**SUNDUZI Municipality has moved to solve severe water problems which are due to ageing infrastructure. The municipality will also attend to sanitation problems.

Msunduzi municipality has set aside an estimated R 19 million to replace water pipes which have been badly affecting residents from Northern areas. The Bid Adjudication Committee has finalized the appointment of a service provider, with the construction expected to commence in the middle of August 2019, with an anticipated construction duration of 12 months.

The following water mains on the roads will be replaced:

- Belfort and Pioneer Road mains will be replaced with 995m new pipe,
- Medina Road will have a new 600m pipe installed,
- Daffodil Road old pipe will be replaced by a 183m pipe,
- A new 169m pipe will be installed in Amritsar Road,
- Andhra Road will have a new 166m installed,
- Deccan and Cora Roads will also have it pipe replaced by a new 812m pipe and a new 695m pipe will be installed at Ginger and Pastoral Roads.

## Sanitation

Sarajini Road sewer main in ward 32 is problematic at present, with effluent flowing on this road, emanating from the Happy Valley area.

The main reason for the continuous blockages is due to throwing of waste (plastic bottles, packets, napkins etc.) into the upper portions of the system thus causing blockages downstream.

There are also large amounts of silt (Sand) that enters this line. This is more a social than a technical problem and in conjunction with Areas Based Management an education campaign will be planned for the Happy Valley area.

The technical solution to prevent blockages in Sarawan and Sarajini Roads is for new 900m length of sewer pipe, independent of the existing one, needs to be constructed and of at least a 300mm diameter or more to prevent blockages.

The estimated cost of this is around R 3.5 million (subject to design, tender and contract award).

## Willowfontein gets new water pump

It is not only the Northern Areas that will benefit from the Municipality's intervention.

Water problems that have affected Willowfontein residents for the past four years will be a thing of the past, after the Msunduzi municipality installed a new water pump worth R1.1 million.

The new water pump will service areas such as KwaPhupha, KwaTomu, Soweto, Esitobhini Esikhulu, Khuzwayo, Bulwer and Manyisa which have been gripped by water shortage for the past four years.

As a result they have had to rely on six water tankers to provide water weekly, in which in some occasions they would not come at all. In some instances, residents have had to use dirty water coming from the Zikizi River.

Msunduzi Mayor Themba Njilo said that the water shortage crisis was not only prevalent in Willowfontein but also affected the Snathing area which also received a new water pump worth R3.7 million in June. Njilo blamed the recent drought for lowering the water pressure at reservoirs and the Albert Falls Dam to a point that water could not be pumped.

He said that due to this crisis, the municipality had been forced to only activate one water pump at once as both water pumps could not operate simultaneously. However while the installation of a new water pump will bring a sigh of relief to many residents, Njilo acknowledged that there are still a few areas where the municipality still has to fix



Mayor Njilo poses with the new water pump (Photo: Supplied)

blocked pipes and broken valves before water can reach them.

He then promised to make this project a priority, saying that after contractors who have been assigned to install the new water pump in Snathing have finished with the project, they will then come and fix the broken valves and blocked pipes.

While residents applaud the initiative,

there are still concerns that areas such as Ezakhiweni, Phupha and Soweto are still experiencing the same water shortage crisis.

Ward committee member Zanele Zondi said while this has brought a sigh of relief to many residents, they hope that the municipality will keep its promise of speeding up the process in those areas that have still not been assisted.

Msunduzi Municipality gets its water from DV Harris Waterworks which is responsible for purifying water from Midmar Dam. The purified water is then distributed to the Northern Areas of the city which are:

- Clarendon reservoir (72% full),
- Ferncliffe (90% full),
- Symons (70% full),
- Henderson BPT (80% full),
- Belfort (36% full),
- Aurora BPT (76% full),
- Rugar tank (83% full),
- Belfort BPT (67% full),
- Copesville (63%),
- Whispers tank (75% full),
- Eastwood (53% full) and
- Murray (50%).

These reservoirs supply water to different areas within the Northern Areas namely:

Bombay Heights, Newholmes, while Khan Road are supplied by Aurora BPT, Haniville,

- Swapo A & B are supplied by Whispers Elevated Steel Tank,
- Ezinketheni is supplied by Belfort (Inlet line into Copesville),
- Allandale and Orient Heights are by Rugar Elevated Steel Tank,
- Bakerville Heights and Dunveria by Aurora BPT,
- Raisethorpe, EPS School, Northlands and Northdale Tech are supplied by Hathorns Reservoir,
- Woodlands and Happy Valley are supplied by Belfort BPT,
- Eastwood reservoir supplies Q Section, Thembalihle, Madiba, Mountain Rise, Merryvale, Cinderella, Sobantu and Jesmond Dene and
- Murray Road Reservoir supplies Lincoln Meade and Hollingwood.

The Msunduzi Municipality, over the next 6 months, will also be undertaking water pressure management in all areas. This will have a twofold benefit whereby it will reduce the frequency of burst pipes and leaks as well create savings in respect to water losses.

The reduction of water pressure is viewed as a long-term solution in improving water distribution efficiency and consequently, as long as the minimum pressures are supplied, will become a permanent arrangement.

However, every effort is being made to ensure that the minimum pressure will be supplied during peak demand periods. The greatest reduction in pressure will take place during off-peak periods, but this would not be noticeable to many consumers.



# Mayor continues quest to help the homeless

By NOKULUNGA NGOBESE

A recent study by the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), stated that cities around the world face challenges related to homelessness. According to the study, in South Africa, these challenges are ever-growing mainly due to unemployment and poverty.

The study further states that the majority of people who are found living on the streets are black people. White, Coloured and Indian homeless are more likely to be found in shelters.

The overwhelming majority of street and shelter living people are male. This is true across all subgroups. It is also mentioned in the study that 29% of children living on the streets come to the streets due to family disagreements, with 12 % due to substance abuse and a further 12% because of abuse at home.

In an attempt to deal with the problem of homeless people in the street, Msunduzi Municipality Mayor Themba Njilo, recently hosted a meeting to, among other things, discuss and come out with solutions on the issue of homelessness in and around the city.

This was not the first time the Mayor engaged homeless people on the issue of homelessness. Last year, the Mayor took to the streets discussing with the destitute some of the problems that they are facing and also raised the concerns of residents on petty crime which was alleged to have been perpetrated by the homeless.

The meeting which was attended by various stakeholders including representatives from the Department of Social Development, Transport and Community Safety and Liaison, was aimed at addressing challenges faced by people who are living on the streets and also to find out what role can they play towards combating crime around the city.

“ I believe that if we can all give them support together as different government stakeholders, most of them can change their lives and more job opportunities can be created.

The Mayor said while these people are often alienated from the city’s public discussions, he feels that they each have a role to play towards keeping the city clean and combating crime. He said that based on statistics, there are about 400 people from different areas, even those from outside Pietermaritzburg who are living on the city’s streets.

Addressing the meeting the Mayor said: “There are many people who live



The destitute listening intently to the Mayor addressing them (Photo: Igunundu Press Images)



Homeless people in Pietermaritzburg CBD (Pictures: Nondumiso Zakwe)



on the streets who have different skills and expertise. I believe that if we can all give them support together as different government stakeholders, most of them can change their lives and more job opportunities can be created. Most of them become involved in criminal activities because they need money so that they can smoke. If we can help unearth their potential, such incidents can be eliminated. Instead they are the ones who can help keep the city clean. We also want to mentor them on various

projects, including recycling projects, as they are always pushing trolleys with recycled material but lack information with regards to targeting the right customers for their recycled material.”

The Mayor said that while he is aware that they cannot all be assisted at once, they will be divided into different groups so that each one of them gets an opportunity. He further said that while the programme will be open to all of them, those wishing to go back home have a right to do so.

**STARLIGHT PROMOTIONS**  
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**PIETERMARITZBURG JAZZ FESTIVAL**  
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Logos for City of eThekweni, arts & culture, GAGASI FM, CASTLE LITE, and Schweppes.



# Horse racing extravaganza in KwaMpande

By QHELANI MSWELI

**M**ARKING the end of youth month, Msunduzi Municipality had festivities in KwaMpande Sportsfield such as horse racing.

Msunduzi Rural Horse Racing which is partly organized by Msunduzi Municipality, is in its second year. Among other objectives, Msunduzi Municipality supports these events with the aim of fighting unemployment and assist with youth development.

Msunduzi Rural Horse Racing commonly known as uMtelebhele, it started five years ago. The aim of this event is to develop this sport to reach the same level of other sporting codes such as soccer.

Event Coordinator, Manqoba Gina, speaking to Msunduzi News said, "As there will be Dundee July and Durban July we trust that jockeys that will be identified will be able to go compete in such big events. Look at the winnings: first position will be awarded R50 000, second position will get R25 000 and lastly, position 3 will get R10 000."

Thousands of spectators, and a lot of jockeys filled KwaMpande Sportfield at KwaMpande on Saturday 29 June 2019. The community was treated with traditional Zulu dance, fashion fair and local singers.

Lebohang Ramokoena, 22, from Gateway School of Fashion expressed gratitude for the opportunity to showcase their designs in support of the horseracing event. Speaking to Msunduzi News she said, "This event will help us get clients, and also be able to educate the youth about fashion."

This year saw the introduction of women's division in horse racing. It is believed that this was the first event in KwaZulu-Natal to have a women's race. The youngest female jockey was 10-year-old. Rural horse owners and jockeys came from Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape and Lesotho.

Msunduzi Mayor Mr. Themba Njilo speaking to Msunduzi News said, "I will do everything in my power to try and grow this event, we currently have sponsors like the Themba Njilo Foundation and Stagelounge. We are still looking for interested parties to sponsor the event to come forward. Going forward we are hoping all provinces will be presented in this event."

The Mayor had a message for the youth. "This country and land belong to the youth. So, if you are still young don't look down upon yourself. Wherever you are, you can change your life, look at where we are, it is a rural place, but the youth here have developed to be jockeys and will become professionals. Look at me: I am not only a Mayor but also a businessman who started his business at the age of 18 years and today I'm 40 years in business. If you are young, never give up. I also want to emphasise that education is important."

The race of the best horses was eagerly awaited and most fans were itching to see whether Nganono, the eventual winner, was going to repeat what he is known for.



Ready to gallop



(Left) Zulu dancers providing entertainment. (Right) Mayor Njilo with the winner Sipehelele Nzimande (Photos: Qhelani Msweli)

Sipehelele Nzimande, 18, the winning jockey riding Nganono, also known as AK, said he already knew he was going to win.

"I knew we were going to win, everyone that I race with knows I will win. I am

so happy to be here because winning has become a norm to me."

## Results and positions

Sipehelele Nzimande came first while riding

Nganono and won R50 000, while Avela Jawuza rode Sihamba Nezigwili and won R25 000.

Thembalani Dlamini won R10 000 riding Maria.



High Fashion in KwaMpande



## SOCCER

# Msunduzi gains another ambassador in Movers FC

By QHELANI MSWELI

SOCCER fans in UMgungundlovu were comforted regarding the relegation of Maritzburg City from the ABC Motsepe League to the SAFA UMgungundlovu SAB League, since the Movers FC moved up to the ABC Motsepe League.

Any doubt about the depth of talent in the Umgungundlovu area was shot down with Movers FC shooting up the higher league. This development is one of the indicators of the existence of talent in the Umgungundlovu area given that Maritzburg United is playing in the Premier Soccer League.

After winning the UMgungundlovu SAB League, Movers FC qualified for

the playoff's to get into the ABC Motsepe League.

Movers FC played against teams from all over KwaZulu Natal in June when did well, winning the first match against Amajuba District.

Movers FC won the first match by one goal and the same result came from the second match against UMkhanyakude District. The next match was against Ixopo District, a match that this team won 2-1.

Sibusiso "Mabunda" Mnikathi, the club captain, said the team was very happy. "my team impressed me. Hard work has brought us here. We want to continue to work hard as we intend to achieve big things."

The other teams that was promoted is the Natal Rich Boys FC from Richards Bay.



Movers FC uMgungundlovu SAB League winners (Photo: Supplied)



## FNB unearthing football talent in Msunduzi

Pietermaritzburg youth afforded the opportunity to participate in friendly soccer activities



2019 boys winners from Edendale Primary



2019 girls winners from Edendale Primary

By **QHELANI MSWELI**

**A**S part of celebrating the youth month, Msunduzi municipality through sport development programme afforded the youth an opportunity to participate in soccer activities under The FNB Football First Legacy Programme.

The FNB Football First Legacy Programme is a partnership between Msunduzi Municipality and First National Bank. This programme has gifted Pietermaritzburg football playing boys and girls from grassroots level to under 13 and under 15 an opportunity to be coached by SAFA accredited coaches.

The 5 regions that participate in this prestigious programme are Toyando, George, Kimberly, Umtata and Pietermaritzburg, with each region holding an annual festival to identify talented and potential players to be coached by accredited coaches who have been sent for training by FNB for their accreditation or coaching licenses. The coaching clinics are from Monday to Wednesday, from 14h00 to 16h30.

Children identified in the festival, are



Players in action (Photos: Supplied)

then coached by these recognized coaches, namely, Miss. M Khumalo, Mr. P Hlatswayo and Mr. T Sindane, whom are managed by Mr R Harrilal.

The 2019 schools that were selected to participate in the Pietermaritzburg festival are as follows: Edendale Tech (boys and girls),

KwaPata High (boys and girls), Bisley Park Primary (boys and girls), Scottsville Primary (boys and girls), Smero High (boys), Laduma High (boys), Edendale Primary (boys), Pelham Primary (boys), Cleradon Primary (boys) and Northdale Squad.

On the day of the festival several school

teams did not pitch up. That did not stop the proceedings as Muzithusi Primary (boys and girls), Siyahlomula High (boys and girls) and Ashdown Primary (Girls) came through to fill the places for the schools that did not pitch up.

Held at Caluza Sports Centre Soccer Field, the games were a knockout system for the boys and a round robin for the girls. In a tight contested final for boys between Edendale Primary and Smero High, was eventually separated by a goal that saw Edendale Primary being crowned 2019 champions.

The girl's final between Edendale Primary School and Siyahlomula High was also won by Edendale primary by a goal to nil. Nobahle Zulu was named as a player of the tournament and Khelweni was also named player of the tournament in the boy's section.

Players that were identified by the coaches based on their potential were selected to represent Pietermaritzburg region in the Soccer Festival that will take place in Johannesburg later this year. At this festival scouts from the Premier Soccer League teams comes to scout for players and recruit them into their academies.

### SOCCER

## Coach Tinkler preserves the dignity of Msunduzi

By **QHELANI MSWELI**

THINGS nearly went pear-shaped for the City of Choice when the soccer team from this city, Maritzburg United, was almost relegated at the end of the 2018/19 season. Maritzburg finished last season with 27 points from 30 matches, and having scored 22 goals, while conceding 32.

The Team of Choice changed coaches many times. After helping Maritzburg United to finish the 2017/18 season lying on 4th position, and making it to the Nedbank Final in the 2017/18 season, things did not go well for Fadlu Davids in the 2018/19 season. Maritzburg United ended up firing Davids after the team ended up at the end of the log with only 11 points after 14 games.

Muhsin Ertugral who took over from Fadlu Davids was fired after failing to win even a single game in 5 matches. Tinkler quickly showed results in a very dire situation, given that the team had to win all remaining 12 games to avoid relegation.

Tinkler who once helped Orlando Pirates to reach CAF Finals and Cape Town



Eric Tinkler the saviour (Photo: Twitter)

City to win the Telkom Khockout, lived up to his reputation.

Tinkler moved the team from the tail-end, in the process, qualifying for the

playoffs against Royal Eagles and Tshakuma Tsha Madzivhandila. Maritzburg United cruised through the playoff's by winning all their matches.

The Chairman of Maritzburg was encouraged by achievement and renewed Tinkler's contract with the team. The relegation of the team would have disappointed many loyal fans who have been filling Harry Gwala Stadium although the team was not doing well. Without another team from the Umgungundlovu region, relegation would have the fans a big blow.

Tinkler is also commended for renewing the form and performance of players who seemed were no longer needed from other teams, in order to avoid relegation.

That includes players like Thabiso Kutumela who was loaned from Orlando Pirates and Allana Kateregga and Judas Mosemaedi both loaned from Cape Town City.

Tinkler proved his mettle as a tactician since the teams from which these players came had given up on them but he gave them a full opportunity to save their footballing futures. Umgungundlovu region can still be proud to have a team in the Premier Soccer League and credit goes to Eric Tinkler as his achievements show.