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MUNICIPALITY SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH SAFCOL

"We have had challenges with forestry management, there were long discussions on possible solutions, with the presence of the Mayor here including his involvement or role in such processes, it clearly suggests that we are committed to bringing change and resolve forestry management issues."

This was an opening statement by MM Mapholoba at the Forestry Total Management Project launch where officials and other representatives were present to witness the SLA Signing of a 3 year relationship between the Municipality and SAFCOL, which is yet to take over the management of forestries.

"We have always wanted to partner with like minded institutions and Msunduzi Municipality is the perfect organisation to partner with. We share a common goal which amongst other things is to generate revenue and to ensure job creation including ensuring that communities benefit from proper forestry management", SAFCOL CEO Mr Tsepo Monaheng.

"The Municipality lacked the capacity to manage forestries, with this partnership I foresee a positive outcome and we look forward to working with you", said Mayor Cllr Thebolla



A CLEANSING CEREMONY FOR CITY OF CHOICE



Mayor Cllr Thebolla joined by uMgungundlovu District Municipality Mayor Cllr Zuma, Speaker Cllr Majola and senior officials of the Municipality were honoured by the presence of iNkosi Nyazilwezulu Shembe, who was in Pietermaritzburg for a cleansing ceremony.

ASSESSMENT OF COMMUNITY HALLS CONSTRUCTION



Speaker Cllr Majola and Chief Whip Dlamini joined Deputy Mayor Cllr Mkhize and his Infrastructure Portfolio Committee members on an oversight visit to Elandskop, France, Madiba and Thembalihle Community Halls, where an inspection of the construction of community halls is undertaken.

The committee was not impressed with the hall construction in ward 8 in Elandskop as work that has been done by the contractor has not been satisfactory and the immediate recommendation of termination of the contract was recommended as they have failed to deliver expected services.



Progress on the halls in wards 7 and 13 received a nod from the officials, with the hall in ward 13 expected to be completed by November. Thembalihle Hall in ward 38 impressed the committee the most as the level of workmanship done on it is of exceptional quality.

Moving forward, more oversight visits will be conducted to ensure the completion of such projects.



TITLE DEED HAND-OVER PROGRAM



The KZN Department of Human Settlements MEC KK Nkosi was joined by Speaker Cllr Majola and Sustainable Development Portfolio Committee Chairperson, Cllr Sokhela at Imbali BB, Unit 13 where the MEC led a handover ceremony of title deeds.

MEC Nkosi announced that on that day the department was launching a programme where on Tuesdays the provincial department of human settlements will be visiting municipalities to handover title deeds to different communities.

"In KZN alone, close to 7000 title deeds will be handed over, and this will make our people official owners of houses that the government has built", said MEC Nkosi.

The MEC made a call to those who receive title deeds, to refrain from renting out RDPs or selling them, emphasizing that the government aims to restore people's dignity by providing secure and comfortable homes.

604 title deeds have already been handed out in Edendale with more still to be handed over as the project continues within Msunduzi Municipality.

MUNICIPALITY SIGNS DEAL TO IMPROVE LANDFILL MANAGEMENT

Municipal Manager Mapholoba welcomed the awarding of a 12 month contract to a new contractor who will be overseeing the management and the operations of the New England Road Landfill Site.

The Municipal Manager was joined by the Chief Whip Sandile Dlamini, Deputy Municipal Managers Wilson Mhlongo and Nosihle Nzama, where the terms and conditions of the contract were read to all the stakeholders and municipal management.

MM Mapholoba mentioned that the awarding and signing of the contract fulfills the commitment the municipality made to EDTEA, other stakeholders including organisations that advocate for the protection of the environment and human rights.

This partnership will ensure that the landfill management team and the contractor conducts daily site meetings where arising issues will be discussed and resolved on the ground.

This is one of the Municipality's efforts to improve the conditions of the New England Road Landfill Site and to ensure compliance with the rules and regulations concerning the operational aspect of the site.



MUNICIPALITY HOSTS INDUCTION PROGRAM

The Municipality's Community Services together with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment under the Department of Public Works, extended public works program in the welcoming of new hires at an induction program which took place at the Harry Gwala Stadium. The program aimed to assist the new employees with their transition, and ensure that they have the necessary information and support they need to carry out their duties.

Due to the floods that occurred in the previous year, this program was started in the Municipality to collect refuse waste and create job opportunities.



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT MONTH OUTREACH PROGRAM

Speaker Cllr Eunice Majola and other Municipality officials joined government officials from the Department of Social Development and other stakeholders, in the launch of the Social Development Month Outreach Program at Imbali Unit 14, Ward 41.

Speaker Cllr Majola applauded officials from Social Development for having programs that speak to social ills, and for taking time to visit communities to have dialogues that seek to find resolutions for challenges that are raised by residents.

The program included a peace walk with residents of ward 41 that began at the Community hall leading to Ezintendeni Sports Ground where the main programme engaging with residents was held concerning issues of GBV, crime, poverty, and further introducing programs that the government has initiated to address societal problems.



DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, ARTS & CULTURE DONATES SPORTING EQUIPMENT

Mayor Cllr Thebolla welcomed a handover of sporting equipment for pre-schools under Mayoral Special Programmes by the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture at the City Hall. The purpose of this programme is to promote sports in early childhood development. "We appreciate the support given by the department and hope the recipients will use the equipment to their advantage" said Mayor Thebolla.



LIBRARY SERVICES HOSTS DRUG ABUSE AND UNPLANNED PREGNANCY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The Municipality Library Services: Southern branch in partnership with the Department of Education hosted a substance abuse and pregnancy awareness program at eNqabeni Hall, KwaMpande (Sweetwaters) in ward 3.

The Schools present were Mconjwana High School, Mvunulo Senior Secondary School and KwaMpande High School.

Ward Councilor Skhanyiso Makhanye, welcomed all the stakeholders and participants, "As the community of KwaMpande, we feel greatly honored to host this prestigious event and thank you for the opportunity to come and educate our learners"

The purpose of this event was to help raise awareness among learners and to promote the primary prevention of drug abuse and unplanned pregnancies and to educate learners on how to make wise life choices by avoiding negative influence and peer pressure.

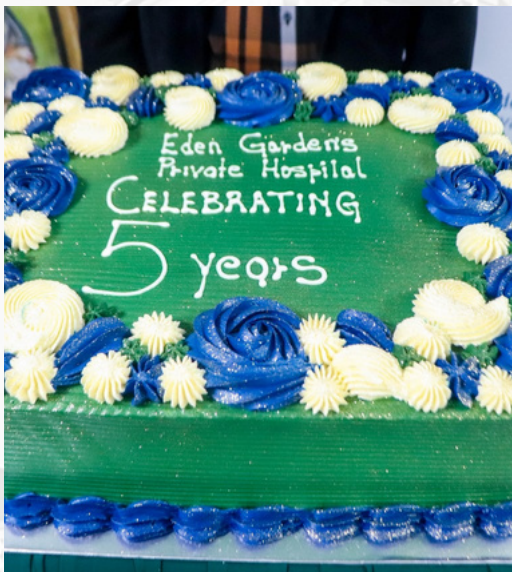


MAYOR CELEBRATES EDEN GARDENS PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Mayor Cllr Thebolla joined the Eden Gardens Private Hospital to commemorate its 5th Anniversary.

Located in the community of the Greater Edendale Area, the Eden Gardens Private Hospital offers superb facilities, to ensure patients receive quality, holistic care, and treatment. This hospital has marked 5 years in operation and celebrated this milestone.

"We appreciate that this company chose to come to Edendale, your decision to bring this facility to us means a lot. We hope you develop fresh approaches to help save lives as you are saving them," said the Mayor. The Mayor also declared that everyone should have access to quality health care.



ABM HOSTS GRADE 12 PRAYER AND CAREER DAY



The Municipality's Area Based Management (Vulindlela) together with various stakeholders hosted a Grade 12 Prayer and Career Day at KwaMpande Hall in Ward 3.

The schools that had the privilege of receiving this prayer were Zululwazi Secondary School, KwaMpande High School and Mtholangqondo Secondary School.

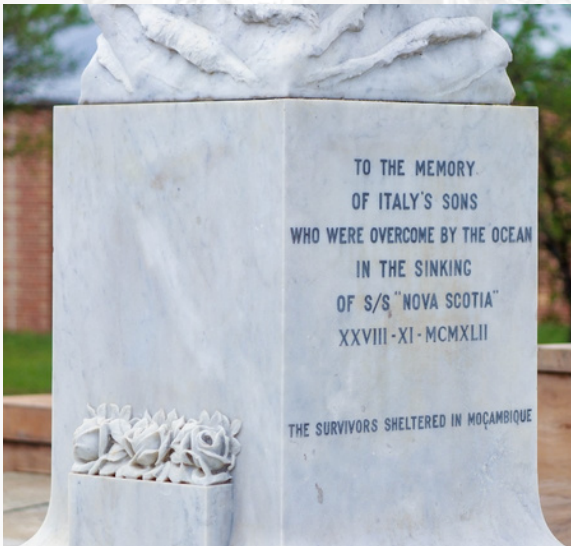
The purpose of this event was to help encourage and motivate grade 12 learners to do their best with focused and clear minds as they will be starting their final exams soon.

"We wanted to pray for this year's matriculants before they enter their final exams. We want to keep the youth of South Africa motivated to study and focus on prioritising education and self discipline. We urge pupils to focus on their dreams and goals," said Ward Cllr Skhanyiso Makhaye.

MAYOR PARTICIPATES IN REMEMBRANCE OF LATE SOLDIERS

The annual memorial service in honour of Italian prisoners of war who died in KwaZulu-Natal took place this in Epworth at the Madonna delle Grazie Church. The remains of 35 Italian soldiers now rest in the grounds of the church, along with the remains of those who died following the sinking of the Nova Scotia in 1942 which resulted in the greatest loss of life in South African maritime history.

Mayor Cllr Thebolla delivered his message of support and emphasised on the importance of always remembering the fallen soldiers and work together for peace and unity in our country.



SPRINGBOKS FAN EXPERIENCE



AMASHOVA KICKED OFF IN THE CITY OF CHOICE



WARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS ENGAGEMENT

Madam Speaker Cllr Majola was joined by representatives from her office , Area Based Management officials (Imbali Area) and Zone 2&3 ward committee members for the ward committee oversight engagement.

The ward committee members communicate between the municipality and the people through the ward councilor, hold the ward councillor accountable on the fulfilment of their duties and report on issues their communities are facing.

The purpose of this engagement was to help provide solutions to the current challenges the ward committee members are facing when performing their duties and problems within the communities and to monitor the performance of ward councilors in wards.

Madam Speaker thanked all the ward committee members for availing themselves for the meeting and commanded them for the good job they do in their respective wards and how they deliver reports, and also addressed the issues raised." we want all community members to receive excellent service delivery from us and to ensure that ward committee members must work closely with their ward councillors"



MAYOR'S ASSESSMENT OF BANKING HALL



The AS Chetty building employees were paid an unannounced visit by Mayor Cllr Thebolla and Office of The Speaker, Manager Mr. Zondi to assess if customers are receiving services accordingly.

Mayor Thebolla interacted with customers, allowing them to voice their concerns regarding time they spend waiting to be assisted, if queries are are timely attended to and their overall satisfaction regarding the treatment they receive at the AS Chetty facility.

"We receive complaints from our residents regarding the services they receive here, and that motivated me to conduct a personal assessment, I am happy with how residents openly discussed their issues with me, and I was able to speed up the process of getting them assistance and other matters will be further addressed as we try to find resolutions to better customer service in this facility".

MAYOR VISITS KWASIZABANTU MISSION

A delegation from Msunduzi Troika led by Mayor Cllr Mzimkhulu Thebolla were welcomed at Kwasizabantu mission. As one of the field workers in Kwasizabantu, Michel Ngubane expressed gratitude for the visit, saying that since one of the valued pastors passed away, people have shown them love and support. "This visit humbles us, and we really hope that the works of the word and the vision of our pastor will help and change people's lives through the word, providing them with a better life and employment", Michel said.

In his acknowledgement of the warm welcome, Mayor Thebolla also said that it had been his wish to visit this place while the Rev Stegen was alive. He also mentioned that it is unusual to lose a brother in one season, and expressed condolences by saying, "despite the pain, God has a plan!"

The mayor recalled the time of looting, when Rev EH Stegen came with a large force to help and clean the city. Having met the pastor for the first time, he really expressed that if we came together we could accomplish more. And we wish and pray for his vision and calling to live with generations and generations to come.



THE ANNUAL NOZINCWADI STORY TELLING EVENT



Gcinamasiko Art and Heritage Trust led by Dr Gcina Mhlophe together with Msunduzi Municipality Library Services hosted the Annual Nozincwadi Storytelling Festival at the City hall.

The Annual Nozincwadi Storytelling Festival is a flagship event of Dr Gcina Mhlophe, an internationally renowned storyteller, activist, poet, playwright and director.

"Being a part of this program is an honor for the Municipality, and we want to make sure that everyone in the room has a great experience while we are also learning a lot, the art of storytelling has the power to open our eyes to explore all the possibilities of life has to offer", said Cllr Msimang, Chairperson of the Msunduzi Municipality Community Services Portfolio Committee.

Poetry, dance, singing and storytelling were all in the line up for the event, which also featured performances from several schools in Pietermaritzburg and international guests.



MUNICIPALITY HOSTS AVIATION CAREER DAY

Fuze Aviation Academy in collaboration with the Pietermaritzburg Airport hosted an Aviation Career Day. His Worship Mayor Cllr Thebolla, Municipal Manager Mapholoba and Chairperson of Sustainable Development and City Entities Cllr Sokhela were in attendance.

In celebration of Transport Month 2023, the airport and multiple stakeholders held a career day encouraging young scholars on career choices in the transport sector. The purpose of this day was to educate young people on the different types of aviation related professions they can apply for.

Students from Fuze Aviation Academy, funded by the Office of the Premier were given the opportunity to encourage and express their journey in aviation thus far. "It only started as a dream and now I'm living it", said one of the student.

"We are working towards ensuring that the airport is fully utilised, we want to make this airport what it should be. We are open to new business ventures and ideas", said MM Mapholoba.



AERO-MARATHON TAKES PLACE AT CITY HALL

The Municipality's Youth Centre together with the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture hosted an Aero-Marathon at the City Hall. Coaches and fitness trainers from different gyming facilities were given the chance to lead the group with different types of aerobics exercises namely Warm-Up, Hi-Low, Box and Functional. Promoting a healthy lifestyle in our city



LIBRARY SERVICES HOSTS “MY DISABILITY INDABA”



Msunduzi Library Services hosted “My Disability Indaba” at Caluza Community Hall. This event gathered government departments, organisations that represent people living with disabilities and also a number of people who are physically challenged were present as this program was specifically designed for them to gain information, knowledge and education on matters involving them.

Main speakers did presentations on how people living with disabilities can break boundaries, cement themselves in spaces that are believed to be for people who are not physically challenged and other speakers shared their life experiences, explaining that it requires a special kind of mindset and dedication to rise above any disability for one to fetch their dreams.

Government departments further shared information on services and programs that cater for people living with disabilities.



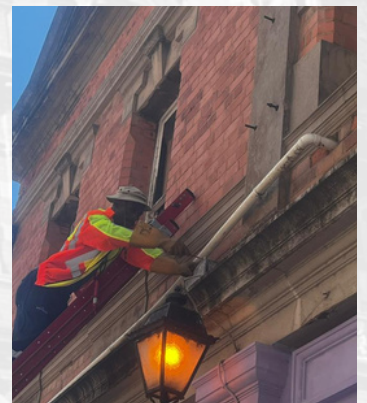
The Municipality (Library Services) continues to seek ways to uplift people from all walks of life.

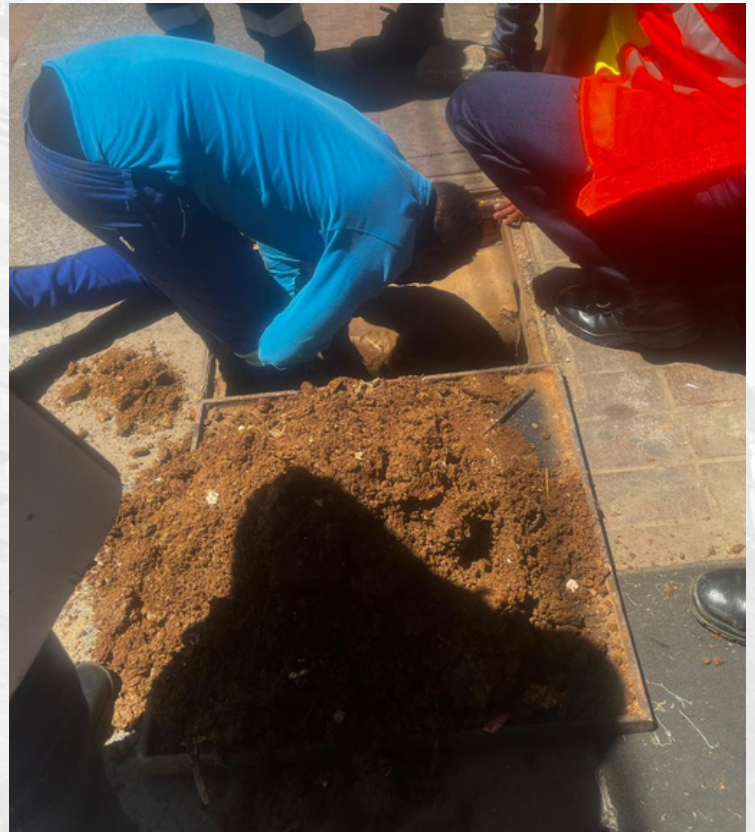




Above: The demolition of shacks at Jika Joe informal settlements that is headed by the municipality's human settlements unit.

Below: Municipality senior officials joined by relevant portfolio committee members embarked on a city walk-about where illegal structures and abandoned buildings were demolished, and disconnections of illegal electricity and water meters were conducted.





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SERVICE DELIVERY IN PICTURES

