



IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome of babies born on New Year's Day	page	01
Visits to the families that have lost loved ones in drowning incidents in Msunduzi	page	02
Media briefing and site visit on housing project	page	03-04
Aloe Ridge Social Housing Project	page	05-06
Waste Management Department initiative to educate and raise awareness	page	07
Tribute to the Gumede family	page	08
Walkabout in KwaPata and Imbali Unit J	page	09
Handover ceremony of the mobile health clinics, cold chain and IT assets	page	10
Title deeds hand over at Mpumelelo Hall in Ward 18	page	11
Business visitation to the Engen Garage	page	12
Business visitation and launch of Khezo Taste	page	13
Service Delivery in Pictures	page	14



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WELCOME OF BABIES BORN ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr Mzimkhulu Thebolla and Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mxolisi Mkhize welcomed babies born on New Year's Day.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor visited Harry Gwala Regional Hospital and Northdale Hospital this morning to hand over hampers to the new mothers as well as to extend well wishes.

"To the new mothers, may you enjoy your journey through motherhood and raising your babies to be future leaders of our nation," said Mayor Thebolla.

The Mayor further applauded the hospital staff for their tireless dedication and passion in ensuring the safe delivery of these newborn babies.



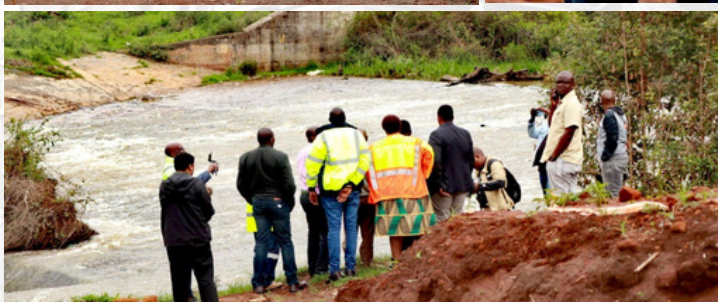
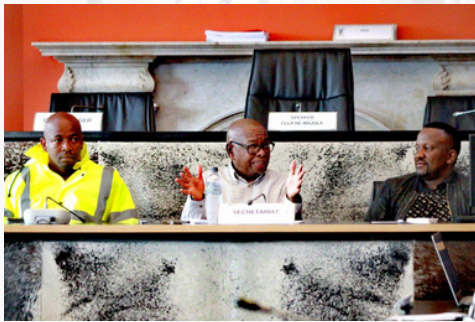
VISITS TO THE FAMILIES THAT HAVE LOST LOVED ONES IN DROWNING INCIDENTS IN MSUNDUZI

Deputy Mayor Mxolisi Mkhize leading a delegation of Councillors and Senior Officials welcomed Minister Blade Nzimande and uMgungundlovu District Municipality Mayor, Cllr Mzi Zuma and visited the families that lost their loved ones in different drowning incidents in Msunduzi.

The Delegation visited the Henley Dam area where a car trying to cross the flooded low-level bridge was swept away on the 31st of December 2023. The leadership also paid respects and relayed a message of condolences to the family.

They went on to visit the family of Ms Nonhlanhla Makhaye who was also swept away at Peace Valley Bridge on 26th December 2023. Deputy Mayor Mkhize indicated that the Municipality would be having engagements with the government on the progress of a bridge construction in Henley Dam.

"These incidents call for us to swiftly act on the completion of infrastructure projects that are currently underway. We need to account for steady progress and also determine our next move in terms of ensuring that after discussions, implementation takes place", said DM Mkhize.



MEDIA BRIEFING AND SITE VISIT ON HOUSING PROJECT

The Mayor Councillor Mzimkhulu Thebolla joined by Senior Councillors and Management welcomed the Human Settlements Deputy Minister Pam Tshwete, MEC Mr. S Nkosi, District Mayor Cllr Mzi Zuma, Umshwathi Mayor Cllr Zondi to a briefing and visit to various housing projects in Copesville, Aloe Ridge and within Umshwathi Local Municipality.



MEDIA BRIEFING AND SITE VISIT ON HOUSING PROJECT

The Delegation was led to Copesville to see the progress on the 20 houses built for military veterans the which are under construction with the assistance from Mpheme Development (PTY)LTD. Ward 29 Councillor Cllr S Madlala was on sight and confirmed that progress on the project is advancing at a great pace. The houses are projected to be completed by the end of February.



ALOE RIDGE SOCIAL HOUSING PROJECT

The Aloe Ridge Social Housing Project ended with the delegation's visit to Aloe Ridge for the engagement with 261 occupants of Aloe Ridge. uMgungundlovu District Municipality Mayor Cllr M Zuma welcomed all attendees to the program stating that "the provision of shelter, security, and comfort is a prerequisite for people to have freedom".

This session of the day served as a celebration of the handover of 12 Umshwati houses to beneficiaries whose homes had been finished where they were handed their keys and title deeds. A site visit to Copesville was also undertaken to observe the construction of the houses and evaluate the mass voluntary surrender of 63 units of invaded flats, as well as the return /handover of some invaded flats to Capital Housing. We have committed ourselves to be the leading province in the rolling out of houses and shelters to military veterans," said MEC Nkosi.

Msunduzi Municipality Mayor Cllr Mzi Thebolla made the closing remarks and vote of thanks. "This is a journey we started in 2018 to provide military veterans with houses, to settle their mortgage loans, and to regulate their benefits. As these are the individuals who contributed significantly to the struggle for our freedom, this programme will be ongoing until the end of 2024", said Thebolla.



ALOE RIDGE SOCIAL HOUSING PROJECT

The housing programs for military veterans are a testament to the government's dedication to honoring and supporting those who have served the people. By providing safe and comfortable homes, the government aims to improve the quality of life for military veterans and their families.



WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT INITIATIVE TO EDUCATE AND RAISE AWARENESS

The Waste Management Department conducting an important initiative to educate and raise awareness about waste management in the CBD lanes.

We believe that proper waste management is crucial for maintaining a clean and sustainable environment. Through this initiative, we aim to educate residents and businesses in the CBD area about the importance of disposing of waste properly and keeping surroundings clean.

Join us in this effort by spreading the word about responsible waste management. Together, we can make a significant impact in our city and create a cleaner, healthier CBD for all.



TRIBUTE TO THE GUMEDE FAMILY



Msunduzi Mayor Cllr Mzimkhulu led a delegation to pay tribute to the Gumedede family, who tragically lost lives at the hands of a family member in Esigodini.

They express deep concern over the rising crime rate and call upon parents, community members, and school authorities to unite and take action against this menace. Together, we can make a difference and create a safer environment for all.

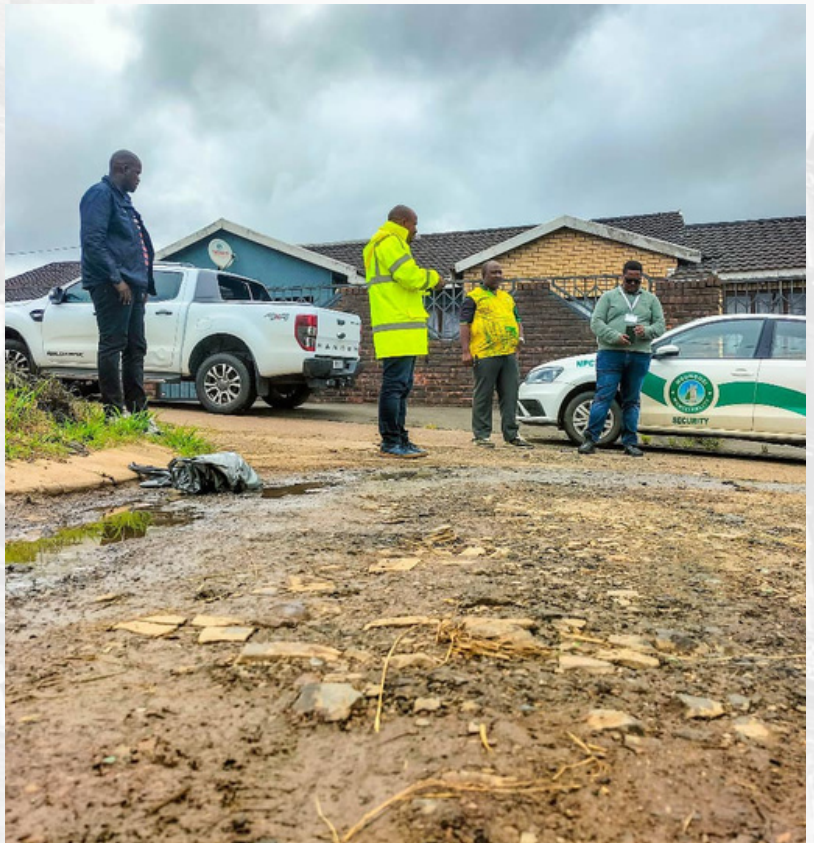
The mayor assures the grieving family that the council stands by them during this difficult time and will provide support until the day of the funeral.



WALKABOUT IN KWAPATA AND IMBALI UNIT J



Infrastructure Portfolio Committee Chairperson Deputy Mayor Cllr Mxolisi Mkhize, along with Infrastructure Deputy Municipal Manager for Infrastructure services and local councillors, conducted a walkabout in KwaPata and Imbali Unit J to assess road damage caused by water leakages and recent floods. During the visit, key water-related issues were identified, and the committee is committed to addressing them.



HANDOVER CEREMONY OF THE MOBILE HEALTH CLINICS, COLD CHAIN AND IT ASSETS

Msunduzi municipality Mayor Mzimkhulu Thebolla joined the Department of Health's Minister Dr Joe Phaahla, Deputy Minister of Health Sibongiseni Dhlomo, MEC for health Nomagugu Simelane, and different stakeholders on the official handover ceremony of the mobile health clinics, cold chain and IT assets donated by the German Government at Anthon Xaba Hall, Sobantu Area, Ward 35. This is to support efforts by the South African government to strengthen the public health system.



TITLE DEEDS HAND OVER AT MPUMELELO HALL IN WARD 18

Deputy Mayor Mxolisi Mkhize and the Department of Human Settlements held a ceremony to hand over the title deeds at Mpumelelo Hall in Ward 18.

Councillor Mkhize welcomed the community. "This event is important to us as a Municipality because it aims to change people's lives by giving them title deeds," said DM Mkhize. The Deputy Mayor encouraged the careful preservation of deeds, emphasizing the importance and saying that this document is not just a paper but confirms the ownership of homes.

The Department of Human Settlements is doing a great job by ensuring that the delivery of services to the people is met and taking care of the needs of the people. Having a title deed is a process and a legal document that means ownership is granted and trying to bypass that process by buying or selling an RDP house is a criminal offense, the Department of Human Settlements warns.

At least more than 40 titles have been awarded to beneficiaries.



BUSINESS VISITATION TO THE ENGEN GARAGE

Msunduzi Mayor Cllr Mzimkhulu Thebolla and municipal officials conducted a business visitation to the Engen Garage on 299 Moses Mabida Road which is under the new management of Mrs Thami Malatsi. The purpose of the business retention and expansion visitation is to strengthen integration relations between the municipality and the business to grow within the region.

Mayor Thebolla congratulated Mrs. Malatsi and thanked her for choosing Msunduzi as her City of Choice to build and grow her business since she's a businesswoman with expertise in the Petroleum industry. "It is a great honor and we look forward to many more years of working together and being of assistance as a municipality with our services."

The Engen Garage had been in closure for a period of time but is now fully operational. This garage also boosts youth empowerment in the city by creating employment as well as through its training program as part of its CSR initiative.



BUSINESS VISITATION AND LAUNCH OF KHEZO TASTE



Msunduzi Municipality and various business departments and stakeholders held a business development and retention visitation to the Khezo Taste Restaurant launch owned by Ms. Nqobile Ngubane at the Tourism Hub.

The purpose of the visit is to bring about business and municipal cooperation through innovative relations in working together on challenges faced by the business and how the municipality could be of assistance.

Ms Ngubane has been in the catering business for 5 years and decided to expand by opening her restaurant which offers various breakfast meals and African cuisine. With her business, she has created employment for youth which is part of her youth empowerment and giving back as a young entrepreneur.

The launch was filled with a lot of wishful words and encouragement for her new business venture.

