

## VHEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY RECONFIRMS COMMITMENT TO SERVICE DELIVERY

Vhembe District Municipality recently held its Batho Pele service delivery campaign at Mapate Sport Ground.

The campaign was aimed at providing services direct to the people, which is one of the priorities of government today.

Sector Departments such as Home Affairs, Agriculture, Sport, Art and Culture and many more joined hands to render services to the people of Mapate.

Cllr Dr. Mdaka, the Executive Mayor of Vhembe District Municipality said that the event gave Municipalities and Sector Departments an opportunity to report back to the people of the district about the issues of service delivery within the context of Batho Pele and the commitment to improve the lives of the people.

The event was celebrated under the theme: "Courtesy"; which is one of the principles in line with our constitution. The theme supports that everybody is equal before the law and also entitled to equal services.

The primary purpose of this principle is to ensure that the living conditions of the people are improved for the better. The Batho Pele code provide



*Executive Mayor Dr. Mdaka signing a service delivery pledge while the Mayor of Thulamela Local Municipality Khosi T.N Makumbane and the Speaker of Vhembe District Cllr Susan Sibiya look on.*

us without any reservations the directive on how we must relate with people during the process of discharging our work.

Our convergence here said Cllr Dr Falaza Mdaka should be characterized by some thorough inspection on how we are treating members of the community when rendering service. We have noted with regret as some of our departments close during lunch time and people are forced to wait until lunch time is over.

The Statement of Public Service Commitment as read by the

Executive Mayor is as follows:

"As public office bearers and public servants, we are firmly committed to the code of conduct of public service and therefore promise to serve our people with loyalty, respect, dignity and integrity.

We shall put people first in carrying out our duties, and will respond to their needs through consultation and participation in order to foster integration between the public service and citizens, to continue to strive to overcome the challenges of a development state.

As civil society, we shall ensure that

we strengthen our partnership with the Public Service by making use of the platform for consultation and participation to inform and influence government's decision to cater for the needs of South African citizens.

We will furthermore make individual and team performance count when it matters.

This is our pledge to the people of Vhembe District Municipality".

## EDITORIAL



*The editor  
MR Razwiedani S.S*

It is at moments like these that government has to roll up its sleeves. With the success of our 2010 World Cup tournament it is indeed time to dirty our hands at the call of our people's needs for good governance and service delivery. This is critical for our people in Vhembe District Municipality like in the rest of the country.

We have gone through trying times with the national public strikes and the country's governing party holding its National General Council. Policies critical to deeping our democracy and growing the country's economy have been discussed and reviewed. Of importance has been the importance of public participation, sharing information and making our democracy work. Indeed communication is at the centre of success of our governance and democracy.

Enough of big and national happenings and back to our District. This edition covers the efforts the District Municipality is making towards addressing challenges as set in our Service Delivery and

Budget Implementation Plan which has been informed by our IDP and Budget for the current financial year. As the District Municipality we are confirming our commitment to service delivery by living up to amongst others Batho Pele principles, the courtesy principle as a strategic service standard. The edition also covers the turn around strategy the municipality has adopted with other spheres: of improving our involvement of our communities in monitoring and evaluating in order to fast track service delivery.

With increased number of outreach government meet the people programmes (zwivhidzo), service delivery gaps like the one of electricity in Extension 9 and 10 of Musina are being addressed. The call of together we can do more, is being made a reality. Important campaigns and programmes important to maintaining the developmental momentum were undertaken.

These include the adopt a river project, celebrating women's month, heritage month, rural de-

velopment, world rabies day, special pro-programmes focus. The edition report on success stories of sustainable ecological and economic development: the greening campaign in the district and province. The municipality through this edition shares with communities progress on challenges of water in areas like Malamulele town and others.

The district municipality has recently lost some of its best and finest development and governance community leaders who are the Chief Whip of the Municipality Cllr T.R. Ratshitanga, Cllr Annah Maluleke and Cllr Mukosi Makhado. The best memory and tribute for them will be to keep their commitment and dedication in uplifting the lives of their people's flame.

From the editors desk, I am eager to get feedback from you the readers. Your suggestions and comments are always welcomed. Let us strengthen our communication as we deepen our service delivery and good governance. Till the next edition: Sharp!

## EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor MR Razwiedani S.S

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SERVICE DELIVERY MONITORING AND EVALUATION



*Some of the fine art work found in the Vhembe District Municipality*



*Part of Awelani Eco-Tourism Park at Tshikuyu Village in Mutale Local Municipality.*

# DEPUTY MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS LAUNCHED AN ADOPT A RIVER PROJECT



*Deputy Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs Vho Rejoice Mabudafhasi on the right and the Executive Mayor of Vhembe District Municipality Dr Falaza Mdaka on the left both with red gloves at the newly launched Adopt a River Campaign*

Vhembe District Municipality was a hive of activities when the Deputy Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs Vho Rejoice Mabudafhasi, launched Adopt a River Project in Limpopo at the Tshisaulu Sports Ground.

The purpose of the event was to launch the Luvuvhu Adopt a River project as part of implementing one of the department's priorities namely that of protecting the country's water resources.

According to the Deputy Minister our rivers are highly polluted, they have become dumping areas for all types of waste. The health of rivers has deteriorated and the ecosystems are badly affected.

Water, continued The Deputy Minister, is a catalyst to development and if we do not act now and address the challenge we will not achieve the socio-economic development plans we have set for ourselves, hence the launch of the Adopt a River project which is one of the country's intervention projects aimed at creating awareness to all citizens about the need

and importance of protecting the country's water resources.

The project, Deputy Minister Mabudafhasi assured, will create jobs and training for women and communities will be empowered with knowledge and skills that will enable them to participate actively in water resource management, make informed decisions as well as becoming water ambassadors.

To the delight of the audience the Deputy Minister announced that R800 000 has been allocated for

Luvuvhu Adopt a River Project in which 100 women from the villages within the Vhembe District Municipality had been identified to clean the Luvuvhu River for period of 12 months receiving a stipend on a monthly basis and training on water resource management.

The Launch was concluded with the signing by all spheres of government of the pledge of commitment to own the Adopt a River project.

The Deputy Minister appealed to the Provincial government, municipalities and communities to make the project a success.

In conclusion she had this to say "as part of our public awareness and education programme we brought the Blue Bus where you will find useful information about Water Conservation and Environment. I therefore urge all of you present here today to visit it. Furthermore, I would like to thank the Premier, Traditional Leaders, Mayors and everyone for joining me in this event".



*Deputy Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs Vho Rejoice Mabudafhasi and the Premier of Limpopo Honourable Cassel Mathale both with red gloves at the newly launched Adopt a River Campaign*

# MEC SOVIET LEKGANYANE VISITS MULODI VILLAGE

The MEC for Local Government and Housing, Mr. Soviet Lekganyane visited Mulodi Village in the Mutale Local Municipality.

The purpose of the visit was, amongst other things, to listen to community members on progress made on addressing the basic needs of the people and service delivery backlogs on housing, water and electricity.

Mrs. Muofhe Mawela from Tshikambe complained that her house collapsed in 2002 and ever since then she has been hoping and trying to get an RDP allocation with no success. Mrs Mawela went on to complain that RDP houses were allocated to people who did not deserve them. Some of the houses were built but not yet completed, she concluded.

Community members also complained about the bad conditions of streets, lack of electricity, employment and crime at Tshilamba where people are robbed of their

hard earned money in the early hours of the morning when they go to work.

The local Mayor of Mutale Municipality Cllr Manyuwa responded by submitting that, the process of free basic water is unfolding in various communities. He explained that ESKOM is responsible for electrification. Furthermore, the Mayor informed the gathering that electrification of Manenzhe village is complete, only energizing is still to be done. The Mayor requested local community members to strictly identify people who qualify for housing benefits.

On his part the MEC for Local Government and Housing said that “We have come here to listen to you and you spoke of the abuse of allocation of RDP houses and the shoddy work on the houses. People should participate in IDP programmes so that they know the budget allocated to projects and the difficulty faced by government on implementing certain projects.

Houses should be built for the elderly, people with disability and women and not the youth.

The MEC went on to state that people should not wait for public participation programmes to raise their concerns, community meetings must be called and people should be informed of the criteria for qualifying for houses. We need community members who are at the forefront of programmes. Community Development Workers are responsible for the identifications and registration of people who qualify to get houses. The government has made a commitment to deliver services to the people. Many people lost their loved ones during the struggle against apartheid and the selfless efforts of their loved ones should never die in vain.

Corrupt councilors, the MEC went on, should leave the system now. He advised community members not to elect people who are corrupt.

The MEC announced that allocation of RDP houses will be increased in 2011.

As for school children who would rather not go back to school and or not write their examinations the MEC had this to say to them.

“Ten years later you will cry alone, today’s challenge will be answered 40 years later. You will need a job to feed your family, build a house or buy any goods of your own choice. If you are not educated and you play with your available time then you will regret later. You should not blame anybody because you are writing your own obituary as young people. Please take care of yourself, it’s about yourself and it’s about your future.



MEC for Local Government and Housing Honourable Soviet Lekganyane shakes hands with the Speaker of Vhembe District Municipality Cllr Suzan Sibiya

# MUNICIPAL MANAGER COLUMN



Acting Municipal Manager:  
**Mr Nnyadzeni Tshivhengwa**

As the municipality set itself to complete its council term, the need to ensure realizing our set targets becomes more pronounced. It could be said that the municipality is well positioned to meet its set objectives. With the most credible IDP in the Province, it could be implied that its institutions and systems are well oiled, to ensure satisfactory delivery. But one could ask, are they? This calls for evaluation and assessment which may need necessary tools. But the nature of the output and impact in implementation of service delivery and governance projects and programme can assist communities to evaluate the pace and effectiveness of our efforts.

Batho Pele principles are enough indicators to measure and evaluate the extent of the effectiveness and efficiency of our administrative institutions and systems in the municipality. Our service delivery implementation must be mitigating against the five governments top priorities. It should be able to address the gaps making government unable to meet its Millenium Development Goals and targets. It should enable people to indeed say, this indeed is our government

in action together with us.

Challenges of service delivery should make community have more confidence in public servants, appreciate their service and saying that indeed there is progress as problems are being resolved. This happens when more and more communities in our district are able to have access to clean water, sanitation, electricity, roads, better infrastructure to grow the district's economy in the areas we have potential in. The district has been making all efforts by convening summits, seminars and workshops to address areas that stand in the way of our development. These summits have been in areas like land availability, cooperatives, tourism, water and others.

With the municipality's systems having monitoring, measuring and evaluation unit, we are boldly saying

through these regular interfaces we will monitor, measure and evaluate our pace of project implementation. Not only that but also the quality of our outputs and its impact. This is the extent to which our partnership will have to go if our service delivery is going to be people driven and people focused. As employees we are at your service. Let us together make the district municipality our prized vehicle and instrument for our envisaged sphere of government

NB: The Municipal Manager, Mr Muthotho has moved on to greener pastures with effect from October 2010 in the National Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) .Mr F Tshivhengwa, The General Manager of Technical services is currently the Acting Municipal Manager until the appointment of a new Municipal Manager is made.

## MUNICIPAL CONTACT DETAILS

### GENERAL ENQUIRIES

015 960 2000

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

015 960 2008

### MUNICIPAL MANAGER

015 960 2009

### CORPORATE SERVICES

015 960 2034

### COMMUNICATION SERVICES

015 960 2006/2016

### SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

015 960 2017

### SPEAKER'S OFFICE

015 960 2050

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

015 960 2032

### DISASTER MANAGEMENT

015 960 2090

### FIRE SERVICES

015 960 2090

### TECHNICAL SERVICES

015 960 3542

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

015 960 2032

### DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

015 960 3545

### LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

015 960 3529

### HUMAN RESOURCES

015 960 2073

### WEBSITE: J5

Mail: P/Bag X5006, Thohoyandou 0950

Tel: 015 960 2101

Fax: 015 962 0904

Service Provider

E-mail: kharidzhadzuguda@gmail.com

Cell: 082 888 46 23

## VISION

The legendary cultural hub in the Southern hemisphere and a catalyst for agro and tourism development

## MISSION

To be an accountable and community driven municipality in addressing poverty and unemployment through sustainable socio-economic development and service delivery.

# VHEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY CELEBRATES WOMEN'S DAY



Some of the Women delegates who attended the Vhembe District Municipality women's celebration pose for a photo.

More than 500 Women of Vhembe District Municipality gathered for the annual Women's Day celebration at the Makhado show ground.

The women's day celebration is aimed at commemorating the role played by women in the liberation struggle. One of such roles being the 09 August 1956 national march against the apartheid government to petition it against its draconian pass laws.

This year's theme was "United in action to make 2010-2020 a decade for African women".

This year was not just festivities and speeches but through the Office of the speaker in consultation with Mutale Municipality a project to assist the needy Ms Mafhonisa Azwitamisi of Gogogo in the Mutale Municipality was launched. Each and every woman and all invited guests were requested to bring along a small brick x 1 to the event as donation in kind for the project.

Cllr. Chaaya the "Minister of Blankets" donated a box of Geisha soaps. R6483.00 was raised from the floor during the event. 1000 bricks were received from women

and VIP's who attended the event. Furthermore, pledges for the building of the house were received from:

Councillors, other guests and the Executive Mayor Cllr. Dr Falaza Mdaka who pledged 2000 small bricks

The cash donation received will be used to open a trust account into which other stake holders may deposit their monies.

The Executive Mayor Cllr Dr Falaza Mdaka gave a Keynote address where he amongst other things said the following:

Women of Vhembe District Municipality need to draw inspiration from the martyr

generation of Charlotte Mxeke, Sophie de Bryn, Lillian Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, Amina Cachalia, Frances Baard and many more other heroines of our struggle for true liberation.

The Mayor went on to say that economic emancipation of women needs real entrepreneurs and not "tenderpreneurs", and that women should seek to claim their space in this phase of our liberation because economic emancipation of South Africa needs a new cadre of women who emulate the spirit of Bo-Mama Charlotte Maxeke and Lillian Ngoyi namely that of dedication, dynamism and sacrifice.

Furthermore, the Executive Mayor said that Vhembe District Municipality takes issues of women very seriously which is why such kinds of events are budgeted for.

Finally, the Executive Mayor expressed his happiness about the way gender is being mainstreamed at Vhembe District municipality and he expect the same from all local municipalities.

Councillors should start to prioritize programmes of women economic empowerment Cllr Dr Falaza Mdaka concluded.



A Woman in Minwenda demonstrates "U Loshu" which in Venda Culture symbolises profound respect by Venda women

# VHEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY CELEBRATES HERITAGE MONTH IN STYLE

Vhembe District Municipality celebrated the 2010 heritage month by embarking on one of the historic tours.

Tourists from the 9 Provinces and the Southern African region converged at the Khoroni Hotel and Casino on the 21 September to officially open the tour at 18h00.

The objective of the tour was to preserve Vhembe's cultural heritage, to showcase the skillful art work and to offer excellent eco-tourism experiences to the visitors.

The tour was organized under the theme: "Bio-diversity is a key tourism asset and fundamental to its sustained growth". This year, the District Municipality celebrated Vhembe District's living treasure as a custodian of intangible cultural heritage.

The biggest lure of Vhembe are the tourist's attraction destinations like Mapungubwe - an ancient Kingdom that espoused a culture of people advanced for their time, Mapungubwe traded with China and India between 1000-1300 AD and currently holds a status of a World Heritage Site; the more than 3000 years old "Big tree" - the largest Boabab tree in the country with a

girth of 43m found at the Sagole Spa in the Mutale Municipal area, Lake Fundudzi - the only in-land Lake in South Africa, Thulamela heritage site and Crooks Corner in the Kruger National Park to mention just a few.

Over the past years tourists flocked to Vhembe District to experience the wonders of nature and aesthetic beauty (natural beauty) of such places such as Kokwani foot print, Phiphidi waterfalls, Tshatshingo potholes, Sambandou and Makuleke wetlands.

Noticeable is Awelani eco-tourism lodge at Mutale Community which is surrounded by indigenous African Viagra trees called Mpesu.

The setting within the Kruger National Park is a must for local and international visitors who braai and picnic in the peaceful wildlife conservation area of Pafuri, Shingwedzi, Mopani, Letaba Camp etc.

The breeze that blows from Limpopo River down to Fundudzi Lake through the Zoutpansberg mountain range brings peace, stability and tranquility to our evergreen District of Vhembe.

Instead of only sitting at home switching your TV and radio sets on and off, why can't you go out and enjoy the wonders of nature around you and reduce stress? asked the organizers.



*One of the many cultural dances that entertained the crowd at the Heritage Month Celebration*

## VHADZULAPO VHA TSHITEREKE VHA TANGANA NA VHAVHUSI VHAVHO

Tshitereke na mashango maledzani ho vha fhethu ha mashudu vhukuma musu vha vhusi vho khethiwaho nga vhathu vho rangiwa phanda nga mulanga tshitiriki tsha Vhembe, mukhansela

dokotela Mdaka FP vha tshi dalela vhupo uvho. Mushuma wo vha u wa u thetshesela zwi kwamaho vha dzulapo malugana na tshumelo ya muvhuso na u isa muvhigo wa tshumelo. Vhadzulapo vho do

talutshedzwa zwinzhi malugana na kuvhusele kwa shango, zwipikwa zwa tshitiriki na muvhuso wothe. Vhutambo ho farelwa mudavhini wa tshikolo tsha Muhuyu wa Thomba hanefho kha la Tshitereke.



*Mukhansela dokotela Mdaka FP vha tshi amba na vhadzulapo vha Tshitereke*

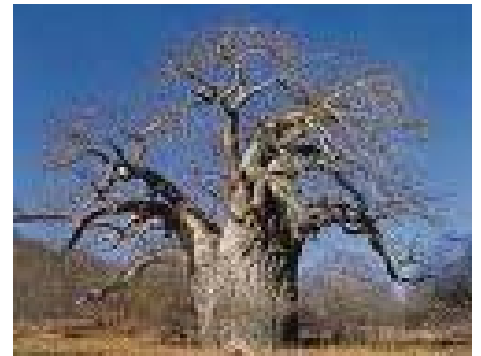
Vhadzulapo vho dzhenelela kha vhutambo uho nga vhudalo. Mahosi ari tshivhidzo ndi ndila ya vhudi ya u konanya muvhuso na vhatu. Thikhedzo ya vhadzulapo yo vha ya vhudi. Vhathu vho

mvumvuswa nga zwigombela na malende. Vhadzulapo vha Tshitereke, Makhuvha, Vhufuli, Vondwe, Ngwenani, Mukumbani na Tshidimbini vho da nga vhunzhi u swikisa zwi vha kwamaho malugana na mveledziso. Zwo takadzaho vhutambo ndi u kandiwa nga mahosi na dzikhanselara dza mimasipala.

Mulangatshitiriki vho dokotela Falaza Mdaka vho thoma nga u luvha thavhani musanda Tshitereke hu u thonifha vhane vha mavu na u khwathisa tshumisano na mahosi. Mahosi vho taisa zwililo zwa madi, magondo a si a vhudi, thahalelo ya dzinndu na mabunga. Mudavhini vha dzulapo vho di amba zwo bulwaho nga mahosi vha dovha vha amba nga u savha na midavhi ya u tambela ya vhana, thaidzo dza mudagasi, dzinndu dzi sa fheli u bva nga nwaha wa 2000 na u sa pfesesa u imiswa ha magavhelo. Masipala o sumbedza pulane dzawe dza u tandulula thaidzo

dza madi, mabunga na u fhedzisa dzi ndu. Mafhungo a midavhi na one o talutshedzwa nga ndila yo pfallaho kha vhadzulapo. Muhasho u badelaho magavhelo wo fhindula thaidzo dza vha dzulapo.

Vho Nenguda Dowelani vho pfesesiwa vhukuma musu vha tshitalutshedza uri u nwalisiswa hu itelwa u divha arali mbadelo dzi tshi khou iswa kha vho teaho. Vhutambo ho tou khakhiswa nga tshitereke tsha vha shumeli vha muvhuso zwa sia tshumelo yavho i tshi tahela.



*Munwe wa mivhuyyu kha tshitiriki tsha Vhembe*

## WATER RELIEF FOR MALAMULELE TOWN



*Workers busy off loading part of the consignment of water pipes for the 5,2 km Nandoni dam to Malamulele town pipe line*

Community members of Malamulele Town are over the moon because of the bulk water supply project which will end one of the longest challenges of water shortage in the area.

Vhembe District Municipality has

set aside R10, 3 million to construct a bulk water supply pipeline from Nandoni Dam to Malamulele Town. The pipeline stretches for 5,2 km. The six month project started on the 14 June 2010 and will be completed in December.

Malamulele Town has had a challenge of water shortage since 1994. This was in the main a result of the sudden rapid expansion of the township which affected the water supply capacity of existing infrastructure.

According to Cllr Mavuyisi Mfungheni, water is only found in low lying areas and people residing in hilly areas find it difficult to receive an adequate supply of water. The water project will assist by supplying adequate water to the hospital, shopping complex, schools and departmental offices. When people come to the town to seek various services they have serious sanitation challenges. Should sanitation facilities not be user friendly due to lack of running water visitors to the offices and shoppers are left with no choice but to use nearby bushes when

nature calls. This is done at the risk of being bitten by snakes and or causing health hazards, particularly during rainy times.

The new reservoir will be built so that there will be enough water supply in the area to service envisaged business sites and new sites to be demarcated for residential purposes

as well.

Meanwhile, villages like Mavambe, Mukhomi, Gumbani, Phaphazela, Mudavula and Mbalati are already drinking clean water from Nandoni dam. Water still remains a challenge in the Vhembe District Municipality. However, R600m will be used to rectify the faulty pipelines which

were used to supply potable water. This may unfortunately take another two years to rectify the mistakes done.

There are also initiatives to supply water from Nandoni dam to other neighbouring Districts such as Mopani and Capricorn.

## Holobye WA TIYINDLU A ENDZELA MUGANGA WA KA GOVHU

Holobye wa Tindlu na Miganga Mutshaviseki Soviet Lekganyane u ti nyikile nkarhi wa ku endzele muganga wa ka Govhu e hansi ka Mfumo Xivongo wa ka Madonsi e ka Masipala wa Thulamela. Xikongomelo nkulu a ku ri ku tihlanganisa na vaaka tiko va miganga yo hambanana e ka Masipala wa Thulamela.

Xivijo xa Mutshaviseki Lekganyane xi endlile leswaku vanhu va andlala swipiqo swa vona mayelana ni ta vukorhokeri bya tiyindlu, mati, swihambakelo, mapatu ni swinwana ni swinwana swipiqo leswi swi khumbaka vanhu e vutonwini bya vona hi masiku ni masiku.

Hi nkarhi wa pfhumba leri, muaka tiko Tatana Hasani Rodgers Moyana va vile na swo tala leswi va nga swi

fikisa e ka Holobye Lekganyane swa ku fana ni leswi: tiphayiphi le ti nga boriwa to ringana nhungu ti nga humeki mati, vana va fambaka mpfhuka wo ringana khumemune wa ti kilometara ku ya e xikolweni. Hi ko kwalaho ka sweswo ku komberiswa xikolo ku ta pfuna vana lava nga ka muganga wa ka Gija Mhandeni. Thusong Centre le yi ngo yo akiwa kambe yi nga se pfuriwaku ku komberiswa ku ri yi pfuriwa.

Ku komberiswa na kambe leswaku mapatu yo suka eka Matsakali ku fika eka Mtiti na ku suka eka Muchipisi ku ya fika eka Magona ya ngenisiwa xikontiri. Layiburari ya laveka eka Malamulele xi kanwe ni Kholichi ya Shingwedzi a yi hundzuxiwi yi va Further Education and Training (FET).

Loko va huma nomo Holobye Lekganyane va sungurile hi ku khensa loko vanhu va humeserile e rivaleni swipiqo leswi va nga na swona. E ka mhaka ya tindlu va vurile leswaku swa fanela ku ri vanhu va akeriwa tindlu ta kahle hi kuva tindlu ti akeriwa ku kombisa ku xixima vumunhu bya munhu. Va yisile e mahlweni va vula leswaku tindlu a ti se ringana vanhu, vanyingi va ha lava tindlu. Eka leti ti nga se helaka va boxile leswaku tita hetisiwa . E ka mhaka ya lava va ha lavaka tindlu Mutshaviseki va lerisile leswaku valavo vata fanela ku tsarisa mavito ya vona eka vayimeri va miganga na swona mavito ya lawo ya ta fanela ku fikisiwa e ti Hosini ta vona hi nhweti wa Ndhati lembe ro reri.

Na kambe Holobye Lekganyane va vurile leswaku hi nhweti wa Dzivamisoko lembe le ri taku tindlu tita sungula ku akiwa eka miganga yo hambana hambana . Vadyuhari, ni vana la va nga feriswa hi vatswari va fanele ku akeriwa tindlu. Holobye Lekganyane va tsembisa leswaku hulumende wu ta hatlisisa ku yisiwa ka gezi e migangeni.

Hi ku a angarhela swilaveko swa vaakatiko hi leswi : nhungu wa swikolo swa sekondari, tikliniki timbirhi, ku boxiwa ka swipatwana, ku tsemiwa ka switandi, mapatu ya ku fambeka, ku akiwa ka xitichi



Holobye wa Tindlu na Miganga Muchaviseki Soviet Lekganyane Xikanwe Na Meyara Wa Masipala Wa Thulamela Mukhaselara Hosi T N Makumbane Eka Govhu

xa maphorisa ku suhi na vanhu, ku pfuriwa ka Thusong Centre, ku phakeriwa ka swakudya, ku akeriwa ti Drop In Centres na ti Home Based Care Centres .Ti mhaka ta mitirho na mayelana na Nchumu wa Fumani Gold Mine

swi vi le swinwana swa swi laveko.

Eka hi nkwato timhaka leto Holobye Lekganyane u kombisile leswaku u ta fikisa hi nkwato e ka ti ndzawulo ti tirhanaku na swona.

Eka mhaka yaku hlohletela lesawku

Malamule yi ti yimisa tani hi Masipala, Holobye va hlamuraile leswaku eka nkharhi wa sweswi mfumo wu le ka makungo yo tsongahata vamasipala etikweni hinkwaro hikuva ku ni va masipala la va nga tirheku hi vuswikoti.

## VHEMBE DISTRICT DISABILITY FORUM CONFERENCE ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP



*New leadership of the Vhembe District Disability Forum pose for a group photo*

Vhembe District Municipality and Vhembe District Disability Forum organized a two days District Disability Forum Conference at the Lalapanzi Hotel. The conference was attended by more than 70 delegates from all four Local Disability Forums.

The purpose of the conference was to discuss and take resolutions on pertinent issues such as economic development, disability framework for Local Government 2009-2014 and constitutional and policy development.

Vhembe District Disability Forum was established in 2006 by all organizations for the disabled in the district. It was established in terms of South African Disability Framework for Local Government which requires municipalities to have organisations for People

Living with Disabilities.

The roles of such organizations are primarily to:

- Identify and prioritise needs of people with disabilities in the work place and in various communities
- Communicate such needs to relevant stake holders.
- Play an advisory role in order to develop and deepen the exchange of views and information between government at all levels
- Uplift the social, economic and political standards of living for people living with disabilities

The conference was officially opened by Acting Executive Mayor Cllr Lucy Mulaudzi, the Portfolio Head of Finance at the

Vhembe District Municipality. In her address Cllr Mulaudzi said amongst other things that Vhembe District Municipality must start to coordinate and facilitate capacity building programmes of persons with disabilities and such programmes should be mainstreamed in the same way as those serving the youth, women and children. Furthermore, the District should ensure that people with disabilities do get basic services delivery such as housing, electricity, clean, roads and access to all buildings like any other person in the District. As for those who were to be elected into positions of leadership, Cllr Mulaudzi emphasized that they should not go out and serve their interests, but the interests of those people with disabilities.

Cllr Mulaudzi informed the conference that next year there will be local government elections and people with disabilities should be seen participating in all the stages of the election process.

In conclusion she wished the conference success in its deliberations and urged delegates to go back and report to their respective constituencies about the outcome of the conference.

The conference went into commissions and the following are some of the resolutions taken ; namely that:

- Issues of economic development for persons with disabilities should be mainstreamed in all sectors

- People with disabilities should form cooperatives and cooperate amongst themselves
- The District Municipality should engage the department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism on programmes and training for those who want to participate in the tourism business
- All coordinators must link up with the department of Agriculture and other departments on programmes that will benefit people with disabilities e.g. training programmes of the emerging farmer at Madzivhandila College
- Qualifying companies of people with disabilities should be awarded tenders by both departments and municipalities
- The forum must lobby for bursaries from various stake holders for the disadvantaged

persons with disabilities

- The Disability Framework for Local Government 2009-14 should be popularized to all Organisations for Persons with Disabilities in the District
- The new leadership should draft a constitution and the district disability policy and present same to the Forum for adoption
- The District Disability Forum meetings should rotate to all the municipalities

The conference also went into elections and the following were elected into leadership positions:

1. Chairperson: Mr. Ratshisusu T Makhado Municipality
2. Deputy Chairperson: Ms Masevhe L Thulamela Municipality
3. Secretary: Mr. Nemaheni W Mutale Municipality

4. Deputy Secretary: Ms Sekgobele J Musina Municipality
5. Treasurer: Ms. Mashimbye G.T. Thulamela Municipality
6. Additional Members:
  - Mr. Tshifhango L Thulamela Municipality
  - Mr. Nembahe T Thulamela Municipality
  - Mr. Jombere J Musina Municipality
  - Mr. Mahlati J Makhado Municipality
  - Mr. Mokgopong A Makhado Municipality
  - Ms Nenzhelele L Mutale Municipality
  - Ms Madzhie M Musina Municipality

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT BENEFIT HA-MANGILASI COMMUNITY

Rural Development, Land and Agrarian Reform are key elements for economic development. They contribute significantly to poverty alleviation, job creation and crime reduction.

The Village of Ha-mangilasi under the traditional authority of Nesengani in the Vuwani region of Makhado Municipality has acquired 320 hectares of land for the development of Mphalaleni orchard project. The project commenced with the planting of mangoes in 1999. At that stage there were only 14 members. Presently the membership has increased to 20. Each member owns between 5 to 20 hectares.

In 2005 Vhembe District Municipality supported the project



Third from left is Vha Musanda who Dr Nesengane with Cllr. Mbooi on his left in a group photo at the rural development project celebration

with an amount of R10, 5 million. The funds were used to buy two Ford tractors, planters, trailers, boom sprayers, diesel tankers, and scrapers, slashers, ploughing equipment and also erected pipelines from Luvuvhu River to four reservoirs. Furthermore, the



*Exhibition of a variety of products at the rural development celebration at Ha-Mangilasi*

funds were used to build a pack house which is still incomplete. The pack house will be used to process products to be taken to markets.

The secretary of Mphalaleni orchard project Mr. Mposi Madzikuse said that they need additional funds to the tune of R5,5 million from Vhembe District Municipality to buy 60 000 types of fruit plants, to build a nursery, to buy manure and medicine .

The project , when fully functional will employ 80 people who will be responsible for vegetable gardens.

Vha Musanda vho Dr. Nesengane

submitted that the project will reduce a lot of unemployment in the village. He revealed that the main aim is to produce atchaar and juice from the fruit products and sell other products to the market. He further highlighted that 300 small scale farmers will be incorporated to Mphalaleni orchard project.

“We are committed to fighting poverty. In a Few years time our vision that nobody in this community should go to sleep with an empty stomach will be realized. There are two people employed full time to drive the tractors which also assist the entire community and one security guard, this orchard will not only focus on mangoes but also on other fruits like guavas, macadamia nuts, avocados, litchis and vegetables.

The departments of Agriculture and of Labour assist the project with training in marketing, project management, finance management and other necessary skills” said Musanda vho Dr. Nesengane.

The ward councilor, Miss. Dorcus Mbooi profiled the development that

is taking place in the area. According cllr Mbooi they are working very hard to ensure that the Mphalaleni project becomes successful in order to achieve its objectives of reducing the levels of poverty, crime and unemployment in the community.

“We are also moving with speed on basic service delivery. Our local ward has five villages namely; Ha-Manghilazi, Tshino, Mphalaleni, Tshifhefhe and Ramukumba. We managed to electrify 1081 households, Tshino to Vuwani tar road is complete at the cost of R36 million by Vhembe District Municipality, 308 houses were built, 75 toilets will be constructed soon. We have bulk water supply like some other communities in the Vhembe District Municipality.

We were the highest in crime but now we proudly say, crime is at zero percent. We are working together with our community members so that we succeed in our efforts of rural development and the sustainability of livelihoods”, Cllr Mbooi concluded.

## THULAMELA SCOOPED R25 000 ON GREENING AWARDS



*Mayor of Thulamela Local Municipality Cllr Khosi Vho T N Makumbane holding a trophy with Cllr Florence Rumani Head of the Technical Service Portfolio at the Vhembe District Municipality on his Right at the Greening Awards ceremony*

Thulamela Local Municipality went away with a whopping R25 000 for being voted the best greening Municipality in Vhembe District. The award giving ceremony took place at Makhado Local Municipality.

Mr. Tsheola M.P of Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism said that the greenest Municipality competition started as a cleanest town completion in 2001. The aim was to reduce waste generation and disposal by 50% respectively by 2012 and develop zero waste

by 2022. This also aimed at raising awareness and educating the nation on good waste management practices.

“The Municipalities in Vhembe District were assessed from the 6 to the 9 of September 2010. During the assessment we focused on five elements which are as follows: waste management, energy efficiency and conservation, water management, landscaping, tree and beautification, public participation and community empowerment and leadership and institutional arrangement” highlighted Mr. Tsheola.

Mr. Tsheola further indicated that in Limpopo Province the Greater Tzaneen and Baphalaborwa local Municipalities won these awards since their inception in 2001.

The Mayor of Thulamela Local Municipality who stood on the boots of the District executive Mayor, Dr. Mdaka indicated that the event is taking place at the right time where the nation is celebrating heritage month.

“Every year in September, various communities throughout the world embark on different programmes which involve awareness and the

appreciation our heritage, our environment and how to protect our biosphere.

Our forests are under threats from the people who are careless with our heritage consciousness. Never cut down trees or kill wild animals without permission.

Some people want us to believe that African people are not able to look after the environment. Vhembe is one of the regions in the whole world with special indigenous trees such as the Baobab trees, Mutavhatsindi, Mpesu and other trees that grow in our world heritage sites like Mapungubwe and Kruger National Park.

Veld fires result in deforestation and dam silting where fertile soil is washed away during rainy seasons because of soil erosion while other soil is taken to the rivers and dams. The silting of dams is creating a challenge to us because the decrease in river flow poses a challenge in the hydroelectricity that we use in South Africa because it comes from dams.

We must remember that plants are producers; they provide us with food, medicine, shelter, clothes

and oxygen for our normal healthy living. The very same oxygen plays a role in the protection of the Ozone layer which prevents strong ultra-violet rays from reaching the earth surface.

Today we live under threats because of pollution which destroyed the Ozone layer that resulted in the climatic changes and the creation of global warming.

We encourage our Universities, sector department and other various institutions to take initiatives and develop awareness campaigns in order to educate our communities in protecting our biomes” said the Mayor.

Makhado Local Municipality was voted the best improved Municipality for 2010. Musila Local municipality scooped R10 000, Makhado Local Municipality scooped R15 000, Thulamela Local Municipality went away with R25 000 while Mutale Local Municipality received a certificate of participation.

Thulamela Municipality will represent Vhembe District and compete with four other Districts in the Provincial Greening awards soon. The winning Municipality will be assessed by the Province before the competition on the Integrated Development Plan, Environmental Tools and Integrated Waste management Plan.

Cllr. Matambela from Thulamela Local municipality indicated that he is over the moon at winning this award. We will educate our communities to live in a clean environment. We shall work very hard to preserve our natural resources and to keep our environment clean.



The Mayor of Thulamela Local Municipality Cllr Khosi who TN Makumbane on the Left with his hand on the R15 000 Cheque For Makhado Local Municipality

# WORLD RABIES DAY CELEBRATED

Vhembe District in partnership with the Department of Agriculture and the department of Health and Social Development celebrated World Rabies Day at Tshilamba Community Hall in Mutale Local Municipality.

Rabies is a disease that affects the brain and leads to the death of the person or animal involved. The symptoms include the behavioral changes, aggression, salivation and paralysis. The virus occurs in great numbers in the saliva of rabid animals. Vaccination is the only protection of rabies.

Dr. Lucas Mompane, the Director of Veterinary Services in Limpopo said that they are worried about rabies. It is a sickness of madness of dogs. The sickness seems to be increasing in the Limpopo Province.

The purpose of the celebration is well explained by Dr Mopmane when he says “We have called upon different stakeholders today so that we can share challenges we are facing regarding rabies and also to vaccinate dogs because people are dying of this sickness. Internationally, rabies day is celebrated on 28 September every year”.

Dr Mompane further went on to reveal that 41 cases of rabies have been reported in the Limpopo Province. The numbers have increased compared to 2009. Vhembe District Municipality has the highest incidents of rabies compared to the other four regions. Government, continued the Doctor, targets to vaccinate 130 000 dogs in 2010. Other challenges facing the Province are dogs and cats that are roaming around. The department intends to go on a house-to-house vaccination campaign soon. Stray dogs and cats will also be sterilized so that such dogs become infertile concluded Dr. Mompane.

Cllr. Lucy Mulaudzi head of Finance Portfolio at the Vhembe District Municipality said that the disease knows no boundaries, neither does it know a department nor a third tier of Government. Mad dogs just attack indiscriminately. People should use the same method when they fight back. All Departments should come together in fighting this disease.

“We meet to discuss diseases that not only take the benefit away, a disease that not only kills animal, but that will also kill people including the owner of the animal. We are here to make it a point that everyone takes appropriate steps to make sure no one dies from this disease” continued Cllr Mulaudzi.

In her address about the disease Cllr Mulaudzi had this to say; Rabies is a disease of all warm-blooded animals including the human being. It is transmitted when an infected animal bites another one or a human being. It is a viral disease where the particles are carried in the saliva.

The virus has a special predilection for nervous tissue; that is like nervous tissue. Once introduced to a body through a bite, it will migrate through the nerves until it

gets to the cord and eventually the brain. It keeps on multiplying all the time so that there will be many viral particles in the body.

It then causes nervous symptoms that can be summarized as madness, hence the name suggesting dog madness. It is called hondsdoelheid in Afrikaans, which simply means dog madness. Animals or people with rabies will eventually die as there is no effective treatment once the sign of the disease is displayed.

Tame animals become wild whilst wild animals can become tame, do not try to touch them. They may be carrying the disease and can bite you, infecting you with the infected saliva.

If one is bitten by a dog or any animal suspicious of having rabies, one should allow blood to flow out and wash the wound with lots of water and soap, and not cover the wound and should go to the nearest health facility like a clinic, or surgery soonest.

Health workers will assist further and assess the bite wound. They will provide treatment and administer anti-rabies injections as well as



Mr Nathaniel Mukumbamukosi dip tank supervisor busy vaccinating a dog during the World Rabies Day celebration

vaccines. These will be to make sure that the body is protected against rabies by producing antibiotics against rabies.

Rabies, Cllr Mulaudzi continues kill more than 50 000 people every year in the whole world. The World Health Organization saw fit to give special attention to rabies by declaring a World Rabies Day where people will be reminded of rabies.

Limpopo Province experienced a high incidence of rabies around 2005, spreading also to human beings causing 32 deaths. Over 140 000 pets, mainly dogs were vaccinated.

Every year, an appeal is made for people to bring dogs and cats for vaccination. Many people comply and cooperate very well. This is great. There are still others who are against development in any form and will always hatch reasons to counter any efforts by government to develop its people.

The surest measure remains that "prevention is better than cure". Rabies vaccination is free. Our caring government does not want to see anybody dying of rabies Cllr Mulaudzi concluded.

Ms. Getrude Muleya, from Tshilamba Township in Mutale Local

Municipality, who also brought her dog for vaccination said that the last time her dog got vaccinated was in 2008. "I feel very happy for my dog to have been vaccinated because my child likes to play with the dog very much and if not vaccinated one day it may be infected with rabies and bite my child. It will also be good for my neighbors' even passers by because one never knows the time of infection and attack. I always wash my dog and feed it with proper food. That is why my dog stays fresh" concluded Ms Muleya.

## LAND SUMMIT IN THE SPOT LIGHT IN VHEMBE DISTRICT

Vhembe District Land Forum held its first land summit meeting in order to review resolutions taken at the Land Summit held at Klein Karibu in the Mopani District.

According to Advocate Thixedzwi Mamphiswana the objective of the meeting was to outline the programme of action on the implementation of spatial framework and the land use management plan and to enhance the re-engineering of agricultural production through land reform.

Ms. Constansia Musvoto of The Council for Science and Industrial Research, Natural Resources and Environment Unit submitted that rural areas are a source of variety of ecosystem of goods and services which include water, wood and food for diverse groups of people. Land is used by different stakeholders for various objectives namely agriculture, forestry, mining, conservation and for settlement.

Municipalities should, Ms Musvoto continued, involve traditional leaders on land development processes. Furthermore, Municipalities should capacitate traditional leaders as well as ward committee



*A group photo of members who attended the Vhembe District Land Forum, Summit's first meeting*

members on the implementation of land audit. Consultation with communities should be undertaken before demarcations of sites could commence in various communities. Similarly, working relations between community development workers, traditional leaders and councilors should be strengthened, Ms Musvoto concluded.

On his part Advocate Mamphiswana expressed a view that there is a need to shorten procedures in the release of land for development in order to attract investors which will in turn create local economic development. Furthermore, continued Advocate Mamphiswana, the process of land distribution and the transfer of land owned by Public Works to relevant Municipalities should be

accelerated.

According to the Communication Officer of Vhembe District, Mr. Moss Shibambu Land Development Forum is attended by representatives of Local Municipalities, Nkuzi Development Associate, Department of Local Government and Housing, House of Traditional Leaders, University of Venda and other relevant stakeholders. The forum meets quarterly to implement resolutions taken during the land summit.

Land is a God given resource and it must be protected, the Land Development Forum will be able to fast track the challenges faced in Vhembe District related to the land submitted, said Mr. Shibambu.

# STOP THE FIRE AND SAVE OUR NATURAL HABITAT

Vhembe District Municipality in partnership with communities has initiated a programme of educating various stakeholders to gain basic knowledge and skills to stop the fire. This initiative is also extended to various departments who need such kind of skills.

General Manager of Community Services: Alex NemaKonde, says:

Communities should apply for training through the Chief Fire Fighter's Office and the minimum number required is ten people. Communities are given certificates after the training and the programme lasts for one week.

There are many causes of fire, some caused by throwing away lit cigarettes, some caused by those who need fire wood or hunt wild animals. However, some fire are caused deliberately by naughty children and people with criminal tendencies.

The whole ecosystem suffers due to fire. Farmers who want to burn their fields should consult the District Municipality so that the fire can be controlled because when the wind blows their orchards and farm steads are burned down. The municipality has by-laws and they will be used for anyone found burning the fields without the consent of the District Municipality.

Currently the training is taking place at Ramukumba under Nesengani Traditional authority. Over 100 volunteers are being trained. The course on elementary training has five modules. Learners are taught the origin of fire, the means through which fire spreads, methods of which fires can be extinguished,



*Some of the Participants at the Stop the fire and Save our natural habitat workshop taking time out for a group photo.*

different fire extinguishers and how to use them.

We want to reduce the risks that are there in communities, that they should not just watch the fire but must do something when fire starts.

The programme started in 2009 and is ongoing. It is even open for the elderly and people with disabilities.

We shall try to increase training staff so that the entire District can benefit. At the moment there is only one training officer, Ms. Mphuma Shonisani with one assistant Mbabatho Mulaudzi.

The training is a dream come true, said Pastor Mukwevho, because we observed that many of our youth are just lingering around without doing anything. Some end up abusing alcohol and drugs and even engage in criminal acts. It is worse with girls who may go further to even sell their bodies to get money to sustain their misdemeanor. Many youths have a lot of energy so if this energy is not properly used or channeled it may be used to hurt society and the

perpetrators themselves.

According to the young Vhutshilo Gabara the programme assisted the youth very much. The youth would like to thank Vhembe District for their efforts to impart this rare knowledge and skills to them. We are inspired by the training and we think of becoming fire fighters in the future. We will attend the three months training to be offered in 2011. We now understand that when fire breaks in the house you must crawl and close your mouth because when you stand up and scream you inhale the gases because when the fire starts all gases blow upwards.



*The Vhembe District Fire Fighters displaying how to put down the fire*

# SUPPLY CHAIN WORKSHOP FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Vhembe District Municipality supply chain conducted a workshop for people with disabilities at the Thulamela Municipality Council Chambers.

The purpose of the workshop was to respond to one of the resolutions taken at the Vhembe District Disability Forum Conference that was held in May this year at the Lalapanzi Hotel. At this conference it was resolved that the District Municipality should conduct a Vhembe District Municipality supply chain management workshop for persons with disabilities during the first quarter.

The supply chain management manager Mr. Nemaname did the presentation on legal framework, objective of supply chain management, acquisition management, database management, quotation system, competitive bidding process, tips to remain competitive, financial consideration

and facilities, expertise and service requested, prohibitions and reporting.

On the data base, Mr. Nemaname told the attendees that they needed to bring company registration certificates, tax clearance certificate and company profile for registration. The service is free of charge.

On quotations, he said it is requested telephonically and normally three quotations are requested for amounts more than R1,000.00 but less than R30,000.00

Amounts more than R30,000.00 are subjected to advertisements which is placed on the notice board or website for 7 days. In this case bid documents are sold for specification.

For values of over R200,000.00 competitive bidding processes are embarked upon. The public is invited for bids, documents are sold, site

meetings are conducted for briefing sessions and subsequently public opening of bids is done at Vhembe District Municipality Head Office.

Mr. Nemaname advised participants not to quote more than R30,000.00 on data base requests. That they should not quote less than R30,000.00 and not more than R2000, 000.00 for notice board and website requests. That they must not quote less than R200,000.00 and not more than R500,000.00 for news paper advertisements. More importantly one should not participate if one would not deliver as expected, to avoid blacklisting.

Finally, Mr. Nemaname said that municipal and government officials as well as councilors are not allowed to participate in the procurement process.

At the same workshop a presentation on Integrated Development Plan was made by Advocate Thixedzwi Mamphiswana, IPD Manager.

In his presentation Advocate Mamphiswana dealt with what is IDP, its purpose, core objectives and impact, the planning cycle, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and review and the IDP support system.

Furthermore, Advocate Mamphiswana encouraged people with disabilities to attend IDP Representatives Forums to familiarize themselves with IDP processes. He also advised them to attend government Imbizo's and outreach programmes.

Finally, Advocate Mamphiswana invited people with disabilities to visit the municipal offices for assistance when the need arises.



*A delegate at the Supply Chain workshop for persons with disabilities held at Thulamela Municipality Council Chambers. The workshop was organised by Vhembe District Municipality to respond to one of the resolutions taken at the Vhembe District Disability Forum conference held this year*

# GALLANT FIGHTERS LAID TO REST



The late Chief Whip, **Mr. Tendamudzimu Robert Ratshitanga** passed on during the ANC National General Council held in Durban. He was a stalwart. He started to recruit and form the first ANC branches after the unbanning of the ANC in the Far North Region.

He was a freedom fighter. The ANC deployed him in various positions. He served as a Member of Parliament. At the time of his death he was the Chief Whip of Vhembe District Municipality.

The late Tendamudzimu Robert Ratshitanga was a poet and an activist at the same time. Some of his books that he wrote includes, *Ndi iwe nnyi?*, *Tell him mother*, *Vhadzimu vha Tshenuwa* which was prescribed for grade 12 learners in 1986 and *Masase* which won the CNA literature award in 1988.

He was severally arrested for housing political cadres and furthering the aims of the ANC in the 80's and

given a five year jail sentence.

Cde Ratshitanga will be remembered by many for his revolutionary discipline, who was very principled and never fought for positions in the movement. He died after a short illness at the age of 70.



**Cllr Nkhensani Anna Maluleke** was a dedicated, committed and a hard working woman; she always stood up for women's emancipation. She joined the ANC as a youth leader during her tender age.

Due to her commitment, she was elected as a Councilor for Ward 6 in 2006. She served as a secretary for ANC Nthlaveni branch and as the deputy chairperson of the ANCWL respectively. In 2008 she was elected an additional member of the ANC Thulamela Sub-region heading the desk of political education and training.

The late Anna Maluleke represented Thulamela Local Municipality at Vhembe District under the portfolio

committee of Community Services. She graduated at the University of Limpopo in Management Development. She died at the age of 42 after a short illness.



**Cllr Mukosi Nelson Makhado** was one of leaders whose experience and hard work will always be remembered by many. He passed on after a car accident along the road between Louis Trichardt and Tshakuma.

He was an executive member of the African National Congress, Gwamasenga branch. He was an educator by profession at Mugoidwa Secondary School at Vuwani and a member of South African Teachers Democratic Union. He participated in the Sanco structure of Hamutsha village and was a member of Levubu SAPS community policing forum.

Cllr Mukosi was a PR Councilor for Makhado Local Municipality, serving under the portfolio committee of Sport, Art and Culture. He died at the age of 50.

## Government delivered electricity as promised

In what has already been described as a landmark achievement in the history of Musina, 291 households at Musina Extension 9 and 10 will benefit from a R2,1m electrification project which is in progress. The project, with financial support from the Musina Municipality and Vhembe District Municipality, is expected to be fully completed on 15 November 2010. The district municipality public participation programme brought a major relief to the community of Musina because



291 house holds at Musina Extension 9 and 10 stand to benefit from the Musina Local Municipality electrification project



*Visible service delivery taking place at the Musina Local Municipality*

the commitment of the district executive mayor, Cllr Dr. Mdaka FP is now a reality. Cllr Dr. Falaza Mdaka promised to find money to electrify households still in the dark and the commitment of the local municipality demonstrates that local government sphere is delivering services to its citizens.

The 885 household settlement, formerly known as Sihlala Nge Nkani, was officially handed over to the residents by the then MEC for Local Government and

Housing, Mme Maite Nkoana Mashabane on 12 March 2009. The first phase of electrification covered 594 houses and the remainder of the beneficiaries are now covered during the current phase.

Mr. Wilson Dzebu, the Musina local municipality spokesperson said that the electrification project is an indication of greater things to come evidenced by the coming of electricity in the aforementioned affected areas, the lives of the people will change positively, especially as

these areas have been in the dark for the past two years.

According to Mr Dzebu the Musina Local municipality is well placed to achieve the millennium development goal of providing electricity to all people by 2014. The Municipality is not relenting in its efforts to push development of the municipality in the right direction. Electricity is beneficial because it is a convenient source of energy, Mr. Dzebu concluded.

A representative of the beneficiaries Mr. Solomon Ramaru is of the view that long journeys in search of firewood at the nearby bushes will be history. With a sigh of relief Mr. Ramaru said “We are very grateful for what our municipality has done for us. Life was very difficult without electricity. We don’t have enough words to extend our gratitude to our political leaders. This is what we call service delivery at our doorstep. We thank them once more.”

## 1km BIG WALK FOR VHEMBE DISTRICT SENIOR CITIZENS

More than 500 elderly persons finished the 1km annual Vhembe District Municipality Big walk. The walk started at the gate of Thohoyandou Stadium and ended up at the Thohoyandou Town Hall.

The purpose of the event is to encourage senior citizens to do some exercises. For this year, the event was spiced by the welcoming of the 2010 FIFA world cup participants. This was done in style with elderly persons waving South African Flags donated by Mr. Tom Boya of the National Older Persons Forum. The event was organized by Vhembe District Municipality and the department of Health and Social Development

Upon arrival at the Town Hall the elderly were addressed by several

speakers. The District Senior Citizen Chairperson Mr. Shihlomule T.E. thanked the municipality and the department for taking issues of Senior Citizens seriously. The respect that the District Municipality was showing to senior citizens did not go unnoticed remarked Mr. Shihlomule.

On his part Mr. Tom Boya said that what made him particularly happy about the event is the fact that Vhembe District Municipality was the co-founder of Older Persons Forum, Limpopo Province. He informed the gathering that the late Mr. Mufamadi M.W. was elected the first Chairperson of Thulamela Senior Citizen Forum, the first Chairperson of Vhembe District Citizen Forum and the first

Chairperson of Limpopo Older Persons’ Forum.

Mr. Boya expressed his delight because of the fact that the Limpopo government led by Premier Cassel Mathale is going all out to support, lobby and advocate programmes for senior citizens. He informed the meeting that some senior citizens from Vhembe District will be part of the 2010 FIFA World Cup at the Peter Mokaba stadium on 13 June 2010.

Finally, he requested all local municipalities to go and register all senior citizens who are more than 100 years old to enable such senior citizens to participate in the national and international centenarian celebrations.



*Vhembe District Municipality senior citizens in a 1km Big Walk*

The meeting also received an address by the Acting Executive Mayor Cllr Lucy Mulaudzi who thanked the National Older Persons Forum, the District Older Persons

Forum and the Office of the Premier for supporting these initiatives. This initiative Cllr Mulaudzi submitted will help the District to learn more as the District is on a learning curve

of how special programmes operate, particularly in the Older Persons category. The District, continued cllr Mulaudzi, will go beyond awareness campaigns on the plight of the elderly and initiate capacity building programmes.

Furthermore, said Cllr Mulaudzi the District Municipality will ensure that senior citizens like any other citizen get their fair share of the basic service delivery cake in the form of housing, electricity, clean water and adequate shelters at pension pay out points.

Finally, she informed senior citizens about the coming municipal elections early next year and encouraged them to participate in these elections.

## THANKS GIVING CEREMONY FOR HOSTING FIFA SOCCER WORLD CUP

The successful hosting of the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup has put South Africa and the entire African Continent on the world map. The FIFA football festival will always be remembered as an agent of change that united all South Africans and brought many benefits to the country even beyond 2010.

Vhembe District Municipality hosted a thanks giving ceremony for hosting the first successful FIFA Soccer World Cup on the African soil. The event took place on 15 August 2010 at Thohoyandou Stadium in the Thulamela Local Municipality at 10h00.

The prayer ceremony was a joint activity between Vhembe Pastors Forum, NAFCOC and Vhembe District Municipality.

The aim of the prayer ceremony was to thank all the people of Vhembe District for playing their respective roles in making sure that the soccer world cup is a success. More than 25 000 people attended the official opening game between

Bafana-Bafana and Mexico at the Thohoyandou Stadium, which served as public viewing area.

Even though our squad didn't make it to the finals we managed to beat former world cup champion France, we left the stage with some of the greatest, we shared our African Ubuntu with millions, we blew our Vuvuzelas, we filled the stadiums to the end and we displayed our national colours with distinction. All of these were worthy of celebration.

The Soccer World Cup has left legacy projects, amongst them

are the upgraded public transport system, the laying of artificial pitch at Makwarela Stadium, resources to fight crime, world-class sporting facilities, tourism etc.

Community members and other stakeholders who attended the prayer ceremony were requested to wear Bafana-Bafana regalia and also brought their own Vuvuzelas.

The Executive Mayor of Vhembe District Municipality, Dr. Falaza Philemon Mdaka also attended the prayer ceremony.



*The Executive Mayor Dr Mdaka and Vha Musanda Vho T K Nemavhola Chairperson of the Limpopo Football Referee's Committee on his right take a photo with pastors from different denominations at the FIFA World Cup thanksgiving ceremony*