



The **GTM**
GREATER TUBATSE
MUNICIPALITY

South Africa's first democratic platinum city

**Burgersfort Mall to be
opened 2013**

**Joint inaguration of
Sekhukhune Executive
Mayor and five Local
Mayors**

**Services brought
in Tubatse**

**Maandagshoek
road opening**

2011-12
1st Edition



Editorial Comment



Welcome to another edition of the Greater Tubatse Municipality newsletter. This publication serves to inform the public about the programmes and activities of the Municipality under the period review. We want to use this medium to communicate with the communities and receive feedback on the services we are rendering. The Council was inaugurated in June 2011 and already there are milestones which they reached within 100 days in office. This was made possible by the support and confidence which you the public have in the Council. We are now in the second quarter of the 2011/12 financial year and we would like the public to assess us on the performances of the first quarter.

The Municipal PublicAccounts Committee has been established and has been mandated to engage the communities on the overall performance of the Municipality. We are appealing to the public to give the MPAC all the support it needs to fulfil its responsibilities.

We have also successfully established the Ward management committees in all 31 wards and they have been inaugurated and inducted. We would like to urge you to start working in assisting the ward Councillors to deliver basis services to the communities. At the beginning of the third quarter the Municipality will be embarking on the IDP consultative processes where we want the communities to participate fully by prioritising the projects that they want to see implemented in their respective wards. This is a collective effort and the participation of the communities is very crucial. On the sad note we would like to pass our sincere condolences to our former colleagues who passed on during the course of the year. To Phoku Gilbert, Mabuza Given, Maile Leonard and Nyelenda Kate we say rest in peace and your contribution will ever remain in our thoughts.

We would you readers to give inputs, comments and suggestions on the kind of services you want to see taking place in your locality. Feel free to use all channels available to communicate with us. Please write to us POBOX 206 Burgersfort 1150 0r email to tamokoena@tubatse.gov.za or kbtolo@gmail.com or alternative visit our offices at 1 Kastania Street Burgersfort

Enjoy

Mokoena Thabiso
Manager Communications

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Mayor's Christmas Message



That time of the year has arrived where families come together to celebrate the festive season. It is season to show love, giving to

needy, showing compassion and most of all to forgive. We have emerged from the year filled with many challenges that most we have overcome. We have learnt valuable lessons that we are taking forward into the New Year. As Greater Tubatse Municipality we will continue with our quest to bring and deliver quality services to our communities. Our doors are opened for those with suggestions to make our Municipality work better. We are aware of the excitement that is brought by the Christmas period into the society.

We would like to appeal to motorists and pedestrians to take extra care on the roads. We have experienced many road fatalities where we lost many lives. Let us make this Christmas special by reducing road fatalities.

Let us all obey the traffic rules to enable us to arrive alive. Let us have our car checked before embarking on long trips, let us have enough rest on the road and importantly let us not drink and drive. We must all put the road carnage aside and wish for everybody to spend time with the family. We have observed high level of criminal activities because most people will be away. We call upon our communities to be vigilant and report any suspicious activities to the Police. We must show that we do care for each other by protecting the properties of the fellow human being

We have seen young people experimenting with alcohol and drugs during the festive seasons. We want to warn them that alcohol and drugs are not meant for young people and can have a serious health implications if one is abusing them. The time will come for the youth to engage in drinking and to the adults please drink responsible in order to teach the youth good values. Those who are engaging in sexual activities please practise safe sex and condomise at all times.

It is our responsibility to reduce the high rate of HIV/AIDS which is prevalent in our communities.

We would like to wish everybody merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Issued by
Cllr Mahlaka NJ
Mayor Greater Tubatse Municipality

20TH ANNIVERSARY

HOSPITAL CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

Mecklenburg hospital celebrated its 20 year anniversary recently.

“We thank God for giving us wisdom and power through all the challenges we had faced up to this day,” said the hospital’s CEO Ms Stella Phala.

She also thanked the municipality for its assistance and various departments including the department of public works, agriculture, education and the South African Police service for assisting the hospital in different ways up to where it is today.

Representatives for the Greater Tubatse Municipality, local traditional leaders, and pastors attended the event which was marked with jubilation from most of the community and members of the hospital staff.

Cllr Archibald Mohlala represented the GTM's mayor.

“We need to understand where we come from, and if you believe in God everything is possible that is why there were people who came with the idea of starting this hospital. Today we could visualize that idea by pointing at this hospital,” he said.

“Those people who came with the idea need to be honoured while they are still alive, and Ms Phala is one of them,” he said.

Mohlala also emphasised that working together with the community can do more than working as individuals.

He also urged the public to change the bad attitudes they have towards nurses and hospitals as he said some believed that when they go to a hospital they would die.

“Let us support everybody and continue to support the hospital,” he said.

Kgoshigadi Mmanyaku Ntoampe urged the community to take proper care of the hospital as it is also their property and to ensure that the hospital employees feel safe to work in the community.

The event was also marked by the honouring some of its doctors and other employees from cleaners, cooks, typist and others for their long-term service at the hospital. They were given certificates of recognition. Three youths were also rewarded with certificates of appreciation for being the first babies who were delivered at the hospital in 1991.

The attendees were entertained by various local artists. Each of the attendees were also treated to a piece of the cake for the anniversary celebration.



The Mecklenburg hospital CEO Ms Stella Phala delivery her speech.



The Mecklenburg hospital CEO Ms Stella Phala, Kgoshigadi Mmanyaku Ntoampe and Cllr Archibald Mohlala, (back) Cllr Dinao Thobejane cutting the anniversary cake.

R520 MILLION

RETAIL PROJECT COMES TO GTM



The jubilant mayor of Greater Tubatse Municipality Cllr Josias Mahlke breaking the grounds for the development of the mall captured in picture.

The residents of Tubatse would bid a bye to travelling long distances to other towns or cities for their shopping spree as a R520 Shopping mall will be built in Tubatse. "Gone are the days when our people will travel to Emalahleni, Mbombela and other cities for shopping because will be making a miracle here," said Cllr Nkosi Josias Mahlke the Mayor of Greater Tubatse on Friday during the ground breaking

ceremony for the R520 m Tubatse Mall and the Curro School.

"Halala Cranbrook we applaud you and the other developers for the development you are bringing in Tubatse to reduce the level of poverty in our community," he said. "We are of course becoming the first democratic Platinum City". He also told the investors that he wants to see the development of Tubatse. He publicly praised Mr Bruce Kgapane the owner of Ziyaphenduka Promotions, an event management company for his effort of marketing the municipality everywhere. About 300 business stakeholders and the residents attended the ceremony. Representatives from the developers namely the Cranbrook Property Project, Abacus and Curro School made their presentation on how they plan to improve the town in front of the local mayor, traditional leaders, local and district's councillors, various business stakeholders.

"We aim to make the town the most pleasant place, we all working on one vision to achieve a modern African city," said Mr Tjaart van der Walt the CEO and director of Cranbrook Property Project. He said the mall would be built in two phases, with the final phase ending in 2013. He said the mall would have 100 shops and 1000 parking bays. "We have a long term vision of investing in Tubatse for the next 20 years," he said.

An estimation of 800 to 1000 direct new job opportunities will be created during the construction phase and an excess of 1000 permanent and casual jobs will be created following the opening of the Mall. The 32000 square metres retail shopping mall would be situated in the Valley of Spekboom River.

Mr Jaco Odendaal the chairman of Abacus said the size of the mall is equivalent to ten soccer fields put together with parking areas and a shopping centre. He mentioned that architectural design will be provided by the Stauch Vorster Architects winners of several awards in the country and abroad. "Murray and Roberts Construction will be responsible for constructing of the greatly anticipated retail shopping centre," said Odendaal. He said the construction work will start in approximately three months whilst the earth work started on Monday. The representative of the Curro schools Mr Malcolm Law said the local Curro School will be a vibrant place for children to learn, learners will also be provided with technological skills. He said the pre-primary school would be open by early 2012.

Mr Shokeng Mahlke director of Cranbrook came hard on parents whom he said had ignored the importance of their children's education. "It's unfortunate that artisans from all over the world have to come to take over opportunities because we don't care about our children's education," he said.

The planned opening date for the mall is in April 2013.



The developers posed with the mayor, Mers Malcolm Law, Tjaart van der Walt, Peter Du Plessis, Cllr Nkosi Josias Mahlke and Mr Jaco Odendaal.

BURGERSFORT MALL

Another Mall development in town!!

The Mayor of Greater Tubatse Municipality Cllr Nkosi Josias Mahlake blessed the groundbreaking ceremony of a R200 million shopping mall at a glamorous event. To avoid waiting in long queues in Burgersfort's shops will soon be a thing of the past as another mall will soon be built in town.

"We'll always stand in front of you on business. Since we started office in June we had promised the people of Tubatse changes and this is one of them," said the Mayor Cllr Mahlake during his speech.

"We are witnessing the making of history in this municipality, as this is the second time in a space of 30 days to officiate another SOD turning for a second mall in Tubatse," he said.

"This is an indication that our municipality is growing and we need such development," he continued.

Cllr Mahlake said the municipality was witnessing the fastest growth in the country as a whole.

He thanked Mr Richard Stevens of Heroit Properties for bringing the development which he said is in line with the municipality's vision of creating a Platinum City.

"We applaud you investors for this since it will create job opportunities and reduce the level poverty in our municipality," he said. Cllr Mahlake said he believed the town's development would lead to the emerging of other sectors like Tourism and Hospitality. He urged the developers to utilise the services of locals where they qualify. According to the developers Terrace Drive Properties 35 (Pty) LTD and the project contractors Iguana Projects (Pty) Ltd an estimation of 500 jobs will be created in various sectors during and after the construction phase.



Groundbreaking 1

(far left) Cllr Siphon Nkosi, Cllr Simon Maepa, Cllr Willis Morena and Ms Lydia Matjie the mayor's PA looking at ground-breaking of the new mall.

(centre) Cllr Annah Masete, Mr Richard Herrings of Heroit Properties and the GTM's mayor Cllr Josias Mahlake

(far right) Mr Lemon Phala the municipal manager captured in camera.

"The community of Tubatse can also look forward to skills development and inner city development that will be implemented during the construction site," reads a statement from the developers.

The Mall will be a closed Mall of 15 000m², anchored by a large convenient shops and up market retailers including Shoprite/Checkers, Jetmart, Webbers, Beavor Canoe, Legit, Pep, Edgars Active, JD Groups, Ok furniture, Spitz, Ellerines, Roots and other smaller line shops.

Construction has commenced on September 1 and the mall is expected to be launched on September 27 2012.

The ceremony was attended by the ward councillor Annah Masete, several other councillors, municipal officials, and representatives from the department of education, business stakeholders from around Burgersfort and other areas, hawkers, and the local media houses.

Attendees were entertained by Bana baMoruti leTlapa traditional group dance.

BY ELECTIONS

Peaceful by elections in Tubatse

BURGERSFORT- By elections ran smoothly in Greater Tubatse Municipality.

According to Mr Sello Maila the elections officer in Tubatse said “the elections were held in Ward 17 following the resignation of an ANC's Cllr Maphoko Lawrence Mametja who is a manager at Sekhukhune FET College”.

“There are four candidates contesting, one is a member of COPE another one for ANC and the two are independent candidates,” he said.

Voters queued to cast their vote at numerous voting stations including Phogole primary, Nthusanang, GaMahlokwana village, GaSelala, Ratanang High School, Rootse primary, Ngomeleng, GaMaphodile, Mamogege, Mhlophe and GaMphedi villages. Mphethi Ngoakana Dorah representing the African National Congress emerged victorious and was sworn by Council on the 04th October 2011.



MAYOR'S DONATION

GTM'S MAYOR DONATES R5 000 TO A NEEDY SCHOOL

The mayor of Greater Tubatse Municipality Cllr Josias Mahlke donated R5 000.00 cheque to Mareologe school.



Members of Mareologe School posed with the Drakensberg circuit manager after receiving the cheque, Ms Busisiwe Matjie, Mers Madikoloshe Johannes Makofane, Jimmy Morethe, Ms Iris Mabelane and Joyce Mabelane.

“I had promised the Drakensberg circuit manager that together we can do something better for the school which presently has no chairs,” said Mahlke when handing over the cheque to the circuit manager Mr Johannes Madikoloshe Makofane and the school's principal Mr Jimmy Morethe at the recent groundbreaking ceremony for a new mall in Burgersfort.

According to Mahlke he identified the school as one of the poorest in the municipality during his visit to the school. He also hopes to adopt the school in future.

“I've realised that when opportunity comes I must adopt it. I urge the principal to utilise the donation correctly, buy chairs for those children and record this donation in the school's donations column,” he said.

The school's principal said they were thrilled about the donation.

GTM MANDELA DAY'S CELEBRATION

Mayor spends the day with the sick for Madiba!!

Greater Tubatse Municipality's Mayor Cllr Nkosi Josias Mahlke spent hours visiting the municipal's hospitals as part of Mandela Day's celebration. Mahlke and his entourage including members of the executive committee, councillors, Member of Parliament Dalitha Boshego, Ms Linah Maepa the senior manager from the district's Department of Health and Social Development, traditional leaders, Kgoshigadi Mmanyaku Ntoampe, and members of Tabodi Care Foundations.

They were all dressed in white t-shirts boldly printed 'Take action, inspire change and make everyday a Mandela Day' on its back.

The visit started at Mecklenburg hospital where the mayor mingled with the patients in all the wards giving those messages of hope and urging them to stay positive regardless of their situation. Cards and flowers with messages of compassion, wishing quick recovery were also handed to the patients.

The mayor and his entourage also visited the Dilokong Hospital where patients were also visited on their beds. They were also presented with cards and flowers.

Cllr Mahlke also spent some time in the children's wards where he shared his love for them and listens to them, children and newly born babies were presented with toys. The team proceeded to Lehlaba Protective Workshop which is a centre for the disabled in Riba Cross.

"Madiba spent more than 67 years serving the country and the world at large, and so we followed his example," he said.

The mayor interacted with the centre's candidates and management. He learnt that the centre was recently awarded a certificate by the Provincial Department of Agriculture of being the First runner-up in the top producer for informal markets category in the 2011 Young Aspirant Farmer of the year competition. The centre was also presented with toys and soccer balls. Happy birthday song was also sung for the country icon the former President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela's 93rd birthday and the attendees all shared a piece of cake.



The GTM's Mayor Cllr Josias Mahlke with children from Lehlaba Protective Workshop during Mandela Day's celebration.



The GTM's mayor Cllr Josias Mahlke in the children's ward in Dilokong hospital.

MANDELS FOR DISABLED FAMILY

CDW's spent Mandela Day with the disabled

Community Development Workers (CDW's) in Tubatse and areas around Moroke village celebrated Mandela Day with a disabled family from the village.

“We were drawn to this family after discovering that the father is visually disabled and his wife is physically disabled yet live in a shack. We then decided to do something good in celebration of Madiba's birthday,” said Ms Maria Mojalefa a member of the CDW's.

More than 40 members of the community also attended the event and Mr and Mrs Mathe were thrilled by the gesture showed to them.

According to Mojalefa they (CDW's) asked donations from various shops in town and presented the grocery including mealie- meal, rice, soaps and other food parcels to the family on Monday.

Mojalefa said they had also applied for an urgent RDP house for the family. “We are still waiting for the response from the department of Local Government and Housing,” she said. The day was also attended by the manager of Boxer Super Markets, representatives from Dilokong Disabled centre and Zakheni Group.



Community Development Workers, members of the community posed with the Mathe's family on Mandela Day.



Long live Madiba!! Madiba 's cake at Moroke.

Mojalefa sends her gratitude to all business stakeholders for their donations towards the family. “We are grateful to all the business owners and the community for their donations, we wish everyday would be a Mandela Day in showing kindness to those in need,” she said.

Attendees also shared a cake decorated with Mandela's face for his 93rd birthday. Other CDW's from other circuits also spent the day doing good in their communities, some visited orphanage centres whilst others paid visits to the vulnerable and disabled.

PRAKTISEER MANDELA'S DAY

MAN GETS ONE ROOM ON MANDELA DAY

Members of the community donated their time to build a one roomed shelter for an unemployed 54-year old man on Mandela Day. Mr Art Makwana the father of four children have been sharing his dilapidated iron shack with his children aged between 18 and nine years since the death of their mother in 2004.

His two older children recently left him to live with relatives in Phalaborwa but the two young ones opted to live with him and attend school in the nearby primary school. They depend on the children's grants. "It's not enough for the three of us," he said.

According to a source who wanted to remain anonymous Makwana was always seen side by side walking with his two children around the village asking for help from his neighbours.

"They don't have anything and would ask for anything be it clothes or food from the community," he said.

The children are said to go to school in dirty uniforms at times. The man's shack is at a stage of falling with missing glasses on the window and old clothes hanging all around to prevent wind from coming in. According to Makwana on rainy days the shack just become full with water, mostly because their area is always a wet-land.

The members of the community, including teachers from Batubatse primary school where Makwana's children attend school decided to celebrate Mandela's 93rd birthday by making a decent shelter for the Makwana's family.



Members of the community pictured working on the site

"Only God had saved him from all the winds, colds and rains. Today is a day to make the world a better place, a day when we can make a huge difference to the less privilege like our icon and former president Nelson Mandela did," said Ms Malebowa Makgeru from Batubatse School.

According to the ward councilor Cllr Rosemary Maroga members of the community and local businesses donated building materials ranging from bricks, cement, corrugated irons, nails and transport for carrying the materials around. She said she only learnt about the family's plight in less than two weeks time and was shocked when she visited them to discovery that they don't even have a toilet.

"We had also called on the home based care-givers and the community development worker (CDW) to join us on Mandela Day and try to improve the living condition for this family," she said. Cllr Maroga said the Sekhukhune District municipality's department of Water Affairs helped them with a water tank.

Makwana said he arrived in the area around 2003 from Phalaborwa where he was living before and had registered for his RDP house there, however his relatives from Phalaborwa who were invited to be part of the function said the RDP was never built up to date.

Makwana's councilor said she is determined to work hard to negotiate with the Department of Cooperative governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs to transfer Makwana's RDP house to be built in Praktiseer where he lives now. "We intend to drive the process up until the RDP is built here, we don't know how long it will take but we will work hard until we see it here," said Cllr Maroga.



Ms Leah Matjie, Yvonne Moreku (CDW), Mr Art Makwana, Cllr Rosemary Maroga and Mr Israel Seimela pictured next to Makwana's shack.

JOINT INAUGURATION OF SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MAYOR & FIVE LOCAL MAYORS

SEKHUKHUNE - Thousands of residents attended the joint innaguration ceremony of the Executive mayor for Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr. Mogobo David Magabe and five local municipal mayors.

The event saw the presence of Greater Tubatse Municipality Mayor Cllr Nkosi Josias Mahlake and his entourages with Fetakgomo's Mayor Cllr Kuki Sefala, Makhuduthamaga's Mayor Cllr Alfred Matlala, Elias Motsoaled's Mayor Cllr Wendy Matemane, and Cllr Yvonne Makola, Mayor of Ephraim Mogale Municipality.

According to Mr Willy Mosoma spokesperson of Sekhukhune District Municipality the joint Inauguration was in line with the directive from the Department of Cooperative governance, human settlements and traditional affairs in Limpopo's Province that there should be a single Inauguration of Mayors in all the five district municipalities.

The district executive mayor promised that the chronic shortage of water in the region would be all solved by November next year. He said the R9billion De Hoop Dam project, whose primary aim was to address the current water crisis in the region, was currently 64percent complete and would be completed by November next year.

The event was attended by the MEC of Cooperative governance, human settlements and traditional affairs Mr Soviet Lekganyane who announced that all the councillors who had been delegated by the ANC will not have double jobs as it is against the policy of the ANC. He urged all working councillors to resign from their professions and focus on their duty as councillors.

The event was also attended by the provincial MEC of Education Mr Namane Dickson Masemola, traditional leaders, and councillors from all the municipalities as well as other dignitaries from as far as Lesotho and Botswana. The ZCC Brass band and other artist kept the crowds entertained.



GTM 's mayor Cllr Nkosi Josias Mahlake, Cllr Alfred Matlala (Makhuduthamaga municipality), MEC of GOGHSTA and housing Mr Soviet Lekganyane, SDM's executive mayor Cllr Mogobo David Magabe and the MEC of Education Mr Namane Dickson Masemola.



Front) The MEC OF Education Mr Namane Dickson Masemola, SDM's executive mayor Cllr Mogobo David Magabe and MEC OF GOGHSTA Mr Soviet Lekganyane.
Back) SDM mayors Cllr Kuki Sefala, Cllr Nkosi Josias Mahlake, Cllr Wendy Matemane, Cllr Alfred Matlala and Yvonne Mmakola posed for the camera.

MAANDAGSHOEK

Hundreds attended roads opening

Hundreds of traditional leaders, mayors and councillors from Sekhukhune District Municipality witnessed the opening of a tarred D4170/ D4167 road to Mandaagshoek villages within Greater Tubatse Municipality. The road was officially opened by the Deputy President Mr Kgalema Motlanthe. The event was attended by more than 47 000 people from all over Sekhukhune including Kgoshi Ralph Kgwete of Mamphahlane village, Kgoshi Masiya Mohlala from Diphale, Kgoshi Bethwell Mohlala from Seuwe, Kgoshi Sidwell Maroga from Maroga, Kgoshi Isaac Kgwete from Sehlaku and Kgoshi John Nkosi from Matimatjatji villages. Faces of jubilation were seen amongst most of the villagers.



Sekhukhune executive mayor's Cllr David Magabe shares a light moment with Mr Patrice Motsepe and the deputy president of the country Mr Kgalema Motlanthe during the event.



The country's deputy president Mr Kgalema Mohlanthe receiving a pair of scissor from Kgoshi Manuel Mpuru of GaMpuru village during the opening of the road.

Unemployed Ms Eni Sekgobela of Mandagshoek said they were glad about the tarred road, though they still need more. "I don't own a car but we are happy that will be able to use public transport at all times and during the rainy season schools will operate normal, but we still need more from the mines," she said.

Sekgobela explained communities around the area are presently sharing their drinking water with livestock animals, while some buy water from those who owns boreholes from their homes. She said there is need for mines to assist communities with clean and purified water, employment opportunities and skills training centres in the area. The premier of the province Mr Cassel Mathale thanked the mines for their human relating to the community.

"We are happy about the road but we still want more and we will be happy to see our people benefiting the most," said Mathale during his speech. He also said that the mines should give first preference to the locals when it comes to job opportunities.

"The mineral resources must not be a curse, the people must benefit from them," he said. He also urged all mining houses to be prepared to train the local people and empower them.

He said he hoped that in 100 years to come when the platinum is no more, Burgersfort will remain a glittering city.

The event was also attended by mine managers, Mr Patrice Motsepe the chairperson of African Rainbow Minerals and his family, Mr Julius Malema the president of the ANC Youth League, the head of Limpopo's house of traditional leaders, King Victor Thulare III of the Bapedi Nation, the paramount Chief KK Sekhukhune, mayors from local municipalities in Sekhukhune, councillors, representatives from the National Union of Mineworkers in South Africa (NUMSA), North-West Arm BBB Rural Up-liftment Trust, local and national artists as well as the ZCC Brass Band, the leader of the ZCC Bishop Engenas Lekganyane, other business stakeholders.

Attendees were entertained by various local and national artists.

MAYOR'S VISIT TO EPWP

GTM's mayor's visits to on-going projects in Leboeng

The mayor of Greater Tubatse Municipality Cllr Josias Nkosi Mahlake and his entourage visited the Extended Public Works Projects (EPWP) and municipal projects in Leboeng.

“The idea was to monitor and evaluate the projects and check challenges faced by both the one's that fall under the local municipality and those of different departments,” said Mr Kubane Tolo spokesperson of the municipality.

During the visit the mayor learnt that the residents of Leboeng had to travel as far as 70 km to get services such as maintenance claims from the department of Social Development's offices in Praktiseer.

He also learnt that social workers from the area facing a serious transport problem, as the total of 53 social workers in the municipality relies on only 12 departmental cars of which three of them are subsidised and some are reportedly broken or went for service.

He also find that the R36 road in Leboeng needs to be fenced to avoid stray animals especially cattle and thus preventing road accidents.

The mayor Cllr Mahlake also noted the need of road signs on the road especially on the one to Tswenyane village.

From the 250 RDP houses that were built in the area years ago, the mayor learnt that only 78 were occupied and the remaining 122 were still not occupied, and have allegedly become a hiding place for criminals.

The municipality had written a letter to the department of Cooperative governance, human settlements and traditional affairs requesting for the name change of the houses from its initial beneficiaries who didn't occupy them to new owners who needs them.

The Mayor also found that the local clinics were having insufficient medicine and doctors. He learnt that a doctor from Dilokong hospital visits the clinic only once a month. The clinic doesn't have fax and photocopying machines.

Tolo said the mayor would communicate his findings with the relevant MEC's of the concerned departments on finding ways of addressing the challenges.

He also said the mayor in on a process of establishing a R4 million bursary fund with Twickenham mine which will assist students with bursaries in mine related fields.

The mayor's visits to the projects in Tubatse would take place every Wednesdays.



The local mayor Josias Mahlake in one of the road projects in Leboeng.

MEC'S VISIT

Roads and Transport MEC's visit in Tubatse

The MEC of Roads and transport Ms Pinkie Kekana visited the municipal Extended Public Works Projects (EPWP) in Tubatse.

She and her entourage together with the local mayor Cllr Josias Mahlke and their entourages drove around to see numerous roads that need to be rehabilitated in the municipality. They also visited the D 4150 road between Praktiseer to Ga-Motodi village which is upgraded from gravel to tarred road. They also inspected the pothole patching projects and the household project in Mecklenburg.

The MEC was impressed projects by the projects in Tubatse and told the contractors on the D 4150 that the local mayor will be monitoring the projects every Wednesday to see that they were doing their work, so far the project is up to standard.



The D 415 road between Praktiseer and Ga-Motodi.

PEDESTRIAN

Pedestrian safety awareness campaign

GA- MANYAKA- Hundreds of primary school-going pupils were taught on road safety rules during a recent pedestrian safety awareness campaign held near the R37 road from Burgersfort to Polokwane.



Pupils of Ga-Manyaka Primary School listened carefully to the speakers

“We aim to raise pedestrian safety awareness following many accidents that involved both young and old pedestrians on this road in the past few months,” said Mr Thabo Mkhabela, a road safety practitioner from the Provincial Department of Roads and Transport. According to Mkhabela more than 40 percent of all road users killed on the roads are pedestrians. He said pedestrians’ seldom judge the speed and distance of oncoming vehicles, they walk on the wrong side of the roads and they cross where they are not supposed to cross.



Mr Thabo Mkhabela, a road safety practitioner from the provincial Department of Roads and Transport.

“Most pedestrians don’t cross at pedestrian crossings and bridges,” he said.

He also said most accidents happen when pedestrians get off taxis and buses because they could not observe at on coming traffic.

Mkhabela urged pedestrians to look at their right-hand side, left-hand side and right again for any coming vehicles before crossing a road.

“Cross only when the road is clear. Keep looking from both directions and listen for traffic while crossing,” he said.

Mkhabela urged pedestrian to always walk on the right hand side near to the edge of the road facing oncoming traffic.

“Never run across a road, stop and look before you cross,” said Mkhabela.

He urged pedestrians to wear light coloured clothes or carry reflective materials at night to be easily seen by motorists during the night.

Mkhabela also urged the community not to drink and walk.

“Drunk pedestrians must not use the road unless if they are assisted by a sober person,” he said.

The event was also attended by representatives from the Greater Tubatse municipality, local primary schools, Marula mine, local driving schools, Road Accidence Fund, police, fire emergency and members of the community.

It was also marked by the question and answer section where members of the public pleaded with the department to make pedestrian crossings and speed humps near school and to check that motorists follow the rightful procedures in obtaining their driving licenses.

It was heard that motorists in this municipality barely obey the rules of the roads even in broad daylight.

“Motorists hardly stop at marked pedestrian crossing right in town and outside town,” said one members of the community.

Lucky winners won themselves bicycles and t-shirts.

Traffic officers also distributed the pamphlets on road safety measures and pedestrian safety to passing motorists.



Traffic officers distributing road safety pamphlets to Motorists, Snr Inspector Japhtar Ralemphele Mashabela captured giving pamphlets to a taxi driver.

SERVICES FOR TUBATSE

Thousands helped in Phelophepa health train

Transnet's Phelophepa health train in partnership with Thusong service centre, took government services closer to the people of Burgersfort.

"The venture of combining Phelophepa Health Train and Thusong Services Centres will serve as a one-stop partnership where people can easily access services and information in their respective communities.



Residents sitting for services in the health train

It will also focus on improving peoples' living conditions through the provision of the necessary skills and training,' reads a media release from Thusong service centre.

"The new partnership builds upon government's vision to work with various stakeholders to provide all South Africans with access to information and services closer to their homes," it continued.

Thousands residents of Tubatse visited the health train as it provided primary health care clinic, Eye clinic, Dental clinic and Psychology Counseling & workshops for people to cope with life problems such as Stress, Depression, Abuse, Conflict, Parenting, Discipline, Suicide and Violence .

Other government department also provided services to the community. For instance the department of Home Affairs was operating and people were able to apply for ID, birth certificates, passport marriage certificates and death registration.

The department of Labour helped the residents with UIF claims, registrations of work

seekers, compensation claims, information and advice on labour law, empowering and skills development opportunities. Government Communication (GCIS) disseminated government information.

Residents were also helped on how they could get their child support, disability, foster care, old age grants as well as war veterans' grants, grants in aid and care dependency grants by members of the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA). The South African Police Service also helped people with their affidavits. "Local Municipalities and department of Public Works are also playing a critical role in providing the necessary enablers to make the working environment conducive for both officials and beneficiaries by providing ablution facilities, water and cleaning of the area.

The newly appointed councillors of Greater Tubatse Municipality visited the health train. The Thusong Service Centre program was initiated in 1999 as one of

the primary vehicles to bring government services closer to where people live, especially in poor rural and urban areas.



Ms Lize Meyer (University of Free State), Kgaugelo Selahle and Marizan le Roux (University of Free State) attending to Ms Elizabeth and Sarah Makofane on the train

STATE OF THE ART SCHOOLS

Five state of the schools opened in GTM

The provincial MEC for the department of Education Mr Namane Dickson Masemola officially opened five state of the art schools in Greater Tubatse Municipality at Praktiseer which cost more than R80 m.

“We are here today to open the government schools under the democratic leadership of the ANC led by president Jacob Zuma because this government cares for the lives of the nation and is committed to build better learning and teaching facilities in our previously disadvantaged communities,” said Masemola.

According to Masemola the building of Batubatse primary school in Praktiseer cost a total of R22 m, with the first phase costing R16m and the second phase with a R6 million. He said phase three is yet to follow. The school started operating in 2010 and have an enrolment of 991 learners. It consist of an administration block, computer lab furnished with 41 computers, two science laboratories, 20 classrooms, 32 toilets of which eight are flushing ones, a hall, a library , boundary walls, paved parking area, covered walkways, water and electricity. The school also have a principal, two head of departments and 23 teachers.

According to Masemola the renovation of the other four schools cost R60 million. The schools includes Moke primary which was established in 1981. In 1990 one block of the school's three classrooms collapsed due to heavy rainfall and the department responded by building three classroom. In 1995 another four classes were added.

“The department went further to refurbish the existing infrastructure and today the school have 17 classrooms, one multi-purpose office, a nutrition centre and 20 toilets. It has 17 teachers, five other members of the staff and 647 learners.

The third opened school is the refurbished Potoko high school in Shakung village which now consist of 20 classrooms, 16 toilets, two multipurpose halls and nutritional centres. The fourth school is Taung high which now have 15 classrooms, 16 toilets, two staffrooms and one office and the fifth opened school is Kweledi high school also in Praktiseer which was established in 1991. The department refurbished its existing structures and build five more classrooms and 12 toilets. To date the school have 14 classrooms, four offices, a library and 28 toilets.

MEC said a total of R136 m have been set aside to renovate other schools and build new ones in the municipality.

“The government love our children, they eat in schools, parents don't pay school fees, buy them books. This government provides free education to all,” he said.

He said his department had launched an education revolution which provides a learner-teacher support material to enhance teachers and pupils in their teaching and learning.

Masemola urged parent to help pupils in with their education. He also said pre schools should teach children how to read and write too. He also urged learners to apply for different bursaries from his



Mr Namane Dickson Masemola the provincial MEC of the department of Education speaking during the event.

department.

Member of Parliament Mninwa Johannes Mahlangu the chairperson of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) said he was grateful of the achievement done.

“This is wonderful, I was here last year with the NCOP and I feel very much happy and excited about the development here at Tubatse,” said Mahlangu.

“We are deeply moved by the gesture shown by our ANC led government. This facility will remain a legacy even for future generation,” said the then Ward 13 councillor, Cllr William Mathebula.

The executive mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Mogobo David Magabe said he was also excited about the state of the art school and he urged the community to vote correctly on Wednesday. The event was attended by thousands of learners from the schools' principals, teachers, governing bodies, curriculum advisors, circuit managers, project managers, councillors and other dignitaries. It was marked by the chanting of ANC's songs and slogans.



(Front) Nomthantazo Malaza, Phila Dluolu, Tetelo Tjie and Alventia Mbuyane posed with (BACK) the chairperson of the NCOP Mr Mninwa Johannes Mahlangu and Mr Namane Dickson Masemola the MEC of education.

WOMEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION

Locals celebrates Women's Month with women in power



The Deputy Provincial Commissioner in-charge of the Hawks, General Dibero Molatjane, speaks during the celebration of Women's Month.

Local women celebrated their Women's Month with powerful women from the provincial government at CN Phatudi sports ground.

They included the Deputy Provincial Commissioner in-charge of Hawks general Dibero Molatjane, the MEC for the department of Extended Public Works Program Ms Thabitha Mohlala, MEC for Agriculture Ms Dipuo Letsatsi, the speaker of Sekhukhune District municipality's Cllr Caroline Mathebe, the cluster commander of Tubatse SAPS Brigadier Sylvia Ledwaba, female station commanders from various police stations in the province namely Polokwane, Tubatse, Ohrigstad, Seshego and Groblesdale SAPS, the head of provincial inspectorate, executive members of Ephraim Mohale as well as Tubatse municipalities, the provincial ANC's women's league secretary, the management of CN Phatudi FET college, councillors, representatives from both Greater Tubatse municipality and Sekhukhune District Municipality as well as members of SAPS and Thobela FM radio station. The theme of this year women's month is "Working together to enhance women opportunity and empowerment."

Beside the event's being a women's celebrating a number of males also attended including the SAPS spokesperson in the province Col Moatshe Ngoebe and Thobela FM's station manager Leuba Ramakgolo. The event also commemorated the women of 1956 who marched to the Union Building in fight of oppressive governance and pass laws.

The Deputy Provincial Commissioner in-charge of Hawks Ms Dibero Molatjane told the attendees that to achieve in life one does not need to be from a fancy family but needs faith in ones' self. "Erase all the negative thought of your background. I'm from a very distant family but I made it to where I am today, it's high time you start to change your lives, be courageous, hopeful and work tirelessly. Nothing was served on a silver platter for me, because I wanted to see myself somewhere I had to fight, but the sky is the limit" said Molatjane.

She pointed out that all the women who made it in life didn't have it easy they had to endure sufferings. Molatjane said women must be prepared to get their hands dirty, be industrious and work as it is stated in the Holy Book in Proverbs Chapter 31.

Molatjane also urged young women and girls to equip themselves with skills especially in the sector of Agriculture and Mining where status shows a shortage of women.

She advised women not to be discouraged by those individuals who have a pull/down attitude.

"You need to ask yourself if you have positively changed somebody's life to prove you're feminine. Lets stop doubting ourselves, we are capable of doing more than our male counterparts," she said.

Molatjane urged men who are used to abuse women to stop.

"To the old fashioned men who abuses women you are a disgrace in this democracy," she said.

The MEC for Agriculture Ms Dipuo Letsatsi-Duba said the province had a number of women whom it is proud of and honour in this month, which includes Ms Asnathi Mahepa, Charlotte Maxeke, Castor Semanya and other women of valour from the province.

She urged women and young girls to study towards becoming farmers, engineers, doctors and other male dominated careers. "Side by side with our men we will eradicate poverty, HIV/AIDS," she said.

She said bursaries are available in her department. Ms Carolina Mathebe said the province recognise gender equality well.

"We have 17 women mayors in Limpopo and all the key positions are managed by women from the SAPS department,"

The manager of Thobela FM radio station Mr Leuba Ramakgolo urged the community to respect women at all times. He told mothers to talk to school going girls about the consequences of teenage pregnancy and urged them to get educated.

"Beauty without brains is useless, make sure you empower yourself to be somebody in the future," said Ramakgolo. He also quoted the late reggae music artist Bob Marly 'Emancipate yourself from mental slavery, none but you can do it,'.

During the event attendees the community were urged to support the national Springbok team by wearing Amabhokobhoko's t-shirt every Fridays.

The event was sponsored by Burgersfort Factory Shop which presented all women with bags of goodies ranging with a variety of soaps, towels, body lotions, hair and body sprays.

Children were also presented with lots and lots of sweets

Attendees were entertained by a number of artists including Majoy's dance group, Mzet, Muzo and gospel artist Winnie Mashaba.



From left) SDM's speaker Cllr Caroline Mathebe, MEC of Agriculture Ms Dipuo Letsatsi-Duba, MEC for Public Works Ms Thabitha Mohlala, Thobela FM's station manager Mr Leuba Ramakgolo and Deputy Provincial Commissioner in-charge of Hawks general Dibero Molatjane, during Women's Month celebration in Praktiseer.

TRADITIONAL LEADERS

Council of traditional leaders elected

Traditional leaders elected 13 chiefs to participate in the municipality' and district council.

“Eleven of them will represent all the Kgoshi in the Greater Tubatse Local municipal level whilst the remaining two will represent us in the Sekukhune District level,” said Kgoshi Kgalema Ramaube the chairperson of the Local House of Traditional Leaders in Sekhukhune.

“The aim of the council is to see to it that there is progress and movement as far as projects are concerned,” he explained.

According to Ramaube, their elections were run in a democratic way through ballot system. He said he is happy about the elected council.

Ramaube also sends his condolences to family of the late Kgoshi Mantsho Bernard Selala from Ga-Selala village.

The elections were attended by the GTM's mayor Cllr Josias Mahlke, the speaker and the secretary of the local House of Traditional Leaders Mr Masilo Maputla.



Kgoshi Kgalema Seth Ramaube of Bothashoek, Kgoshi Maputle Sidwell Maroga of Ga-Maroga, Kgoshigadi Setlogago Gertrude Riba of Ga-Riba, and Mr Masilo Maputla the secretary of Sekhukhune House of traditional leaders.

VISION

A developed platinum city for all.

MISSION

To promote:

Local, accountable democracy through active community participation.

Economic advancement to fight poverty and unemployment.

Accessible, need-satisfying service rendered in a sustainable, affordable manner.

Municipal transformation and Institutional development.

Environmental management to ensure a balance between safe human settlements and economic base of the Municipality

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