

# Alfred Nzo News

Alfred Nzo District Municipality Official Newsletter



Vol. 9 - 2016

## REGULARS

- Message from the Executive Mayor
- Council Message from the Speaker
- Through the Lenses



Produced by Communications Unit

# FOREWORD BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR



Let me take this opportunity and welcome all our readers and residents to our quarterly publication which is intended to keep communities, stakeholders and other strategic formations in the district and beyond informed about the implementation of the municipal programme of action.

We have started this year on a sad note as we lost three of our residents due to devastating storms that hit the district repeatedly; the extreme weather conditions have left more than hundred and fifty homes completely destroyed living hundreds homeless and whilst over seven hundred homes have been severely damaged.

We extend our condolences to families who lost their loved ones during this period. As the municipality, let's further take this opportunity to thank our residents for opening their doors to those who were affected by the storm and also extends our appreciation to civil society formations like Al-Imdaad Foundation and others for their compassion, kindness,

care and their quick response to our request for assistance.

As the Executive Mayor of the district, let me take this opportunity to officially inform our communities, that as the district we are severely affected by the current drought and this has prompted national and provincial government working together with our disaster management unit and various other organs of the state in the district to conduct assessment visits to our water sources and agricultural projects in many communities across the district. The visit by national and provincial task teams follows on the footsteps of the declaration of the local state of disaster that was made by the district Council late last year.

The declaration made by the Council was done after an intensive assessment done by the Alfred Nzo District Municipality Infrastructure Development department, Disaster Management Unit and the Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform. The drought has severely affected our concerted efforts to

bringing reliable water services and supply to many of our communities in towns and villages across the district.

Let me once again apologise to our communities for the disruptions on water services that they are currently experiencing and appreciate the fact that our people are working with us as their government in finding lasting solutions to the water challenges that have been worsened by the drought.

In response to the current drought, we have deployed additional trucks to areas that have been hard hit by the drought and more over we have procured additional water tanks that will be placed in various communities across the district. We call upon our traditional councils and communities at large to safeguard these tanks in their communities. As the district, we have formed task teams made up of officials and relevant stakeholders to develop a strategy that will be implemented during the drought period and we call upon all our communities and all formations to work with us in saving water in this difficult time.

We will continue to keep our communities informed on our weekly radio programme called Phuhla Alfred Nzo that airs on Mondays between 17h00 to 18h00 weekdays on Alfred Nzo and Inkonjane Community radios. Our communities can also link directly with the municipality through our Customer Care Line which is 086 000 3781.

Furthermore, we will be engaging with our communities, as we will be embarking on a massive outreach programme which among its pillars will be the communications of government intervention in response to the drought and also to bring relief to the affected communities.

Thank you very much for spending your valuable time to read this publication and we look forward to your inputs in our developmental agenda.

**E.N. DIKO**  
**EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

## SPEAKER'S COUNCIL MESSAGE



One always becomes excited, overwhelmed and humbled at the opportunity of putting forward the Council's message in these quarterly newsletters of our district municipality. This is our own contribution in trying to give reality to the provisions of section 16 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act calling for a culture of community participation to be enhanced in municipalities. Writing in this edition of our newsletter, one can report that the Council has managed to sit regularly even beyond the once a quarter threshold provided for in the law. The sitting of this particular highest decision making body need not be overemphasized as the law quoted above has reserved the delegation of some functions to any structure being the following:

The power to set tariffs;  
To decide to enter into a service delivery agreement;  
Approve or amend the municipality's integrated development plan;  
The passing of by-laws;  
The approval of budgets;  
The imposition of taxes, levies and duties;

### The raising of loans

One felt necessary to touch on the list of functions that are reserved for the Council as the highest decision making body within a municipality. Have confidence in that our Council is doing its best in terms of shaping the policy direction of the municipality by the kind of resolutions it passes from time to time.

The conclusion of the second quarter has been something of a success as the period coincided with the end of the calendar year 2015. As usual across all areas of the district municipality, our people ascribing to the different cultures observed the circumcision rite. The initiation season was preceded by a dialogue wherein various stakeholders and groupings took part in seeing to it that an end is put to the many boys/ young men losing their lives and other atrocities. It is our plan that we reconvene another session in doing the much-needed introspection in gauging how the season went in our district.

In ensuring that our programmes/

structures indeed complement each other, we started monitoring the initiation schools this summer using the ambit of the Moral Regeneration Movement. This is only a start and can get better with time as we get a better grasp of issues prevailing on initiation per town/ local municipality through the partnerships formed with the Initiation Forums and Traditional Leadership institutions. It is now profound wish to see the latter (Traditional Leadership) playing necessary leadership and guidance on the aspect of initiation as guardians of everything relating to customs.

Still on the key subject of maintaining sound relations, a study group was held in November 2015 by the Office of the Chief Whip focusing on the matter of capacity building for councillors as provided for in the law. The manner in which the session went underlines the relative stability that permeates within our Council across various political party spectrums, office bearers and management. We are grateful to the presentation done by the South African Local Government Association as it was indeed a sizeable provision for our organization to work in seeing to it that legislators' skills are improved as well. We are constantly endeavouring to improve the legislative arm of the Council by ensuring formation and regular sitting of all section 79 committees. Our Municipal Public Accounts Committee embarked on three day visit to the different projects that have been implemented by the municipality in getting a sense of what may be the bottle-necks in these crucial projects/ programmes. We cannot be silent about the looming local government elections and call on eligible voters to ensure they register to be able to exercise their democratic rights

You are welcome esteemed citizenry of Alfred Nzo District Municipality and please make use of this avenue provided for the sole reason of engaging with yourselves!!

**CLLR. S. SELLO**  
**SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL**

## MPAC ASSESSES SERVICE DELIVERY

Alfred Nzo District Municipality's Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC), has conducted a week long monitoring and oversight visit to service delivery projects to check progress made on all initiatives that are implemented by the district municipality.

The district MPAC joined by their counterparts from the local municipalities during their visit met with various stakeholders like project steering committees, ward committees, traditional leaders and community development workers in its drive to get every detail pertaining to each project visited.

MPAC Chairperson, Cllr. Phikolomzi Siramza, said the reasons for the outreach were to provide an oversight on projects that are being implemented by the district municipality in order for them to see progress that has been made thus far. "As the committee, we are a public's eye on implementation of the municipal programme action as adopted by the Council. As such we have been tasked by the Council to constantly monitor the municipal projects in order for us to ascertain whether the municipality is getting value for money on these projects with the ultimate intention being to see communities getting quality services at the end," said Siramza.

The committee is one of the structures of the Council that are tasked with service delivery oversight.

"After receiving reports from the executive, committee has a responsibility of conducting projects sites visits to establish the basis for those reports, as well as to ensure that spending on projects equates the actual job done on the ground," said the Speaker of the Council, Sandile Sello. The MPAC delegation led by the its Chairperson Siramza visited various projects in Mbizana, among them being the Greater Mbizana Water Scheme at Nomlacu village and Mfundisweni community projects. In Matatiele the delegation visited Maggie Resha sanitation zone centre, Fobane Sub Regional Water Supply Scheme and Maluti/Matatiele/Ramohlakoana Bulk



*Above: MPAC delegation visiting Fobane Water Supply Scheme in Matatiele*



*Above: MPAC delegation visiting Fobane Water Supply Scheme in Matatiele*



*Above: MPAC delegation inspecting Ntibane/Mkhemane water scheme in Mount Frere*

Water Supply Scheme. Meanwhile the second delegation led by the Deputy MPAC Chairperson, Cllr. Joe Munyu visited the construction of Ward 22 Water Supply Scheme, KwaBhaca Regional Water Supply Scheme, Nophoyi Zone Centre, Ntibane Water Supply Scheme, Cabazana Water Supply and Goxe cut flower in Umzimvubu Local

Municipality. In Ntabankulu Local Municipality they visited the upgrade of Ntabankulu sewer and Nyokweni/Bomvini Water Supply Phase 2. MPAC Chairperson said they would table the findings to the Council and then the Council will take necessary steps to address issues that have been raised through its structures.

# BREAKING THE CYCLE OF RURAL POVERTY



*Above: Political leadership planting in one of the garden at Mbongweni village in Mbizana*

Government join forces with civil society formations and communities to fight hunger and malnutrition, the united force to fight poverty was evident during the World Food Day event recently held at Mbongweni village in Mbizana which is a day earmarked to create awareness on issues of global food insecurity and the theme for the commemoration was “Social Protection and Agriculture: Breaking the Cycle of Rural Poverty”. The event saw the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), in partnership with the Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform (DRDAR), Alfred Nzo District Municipality, the Mbizana Local Municipality and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization descending to the village which is in the outskirts of the Mbizana to commemorate the day. The event was well received by residents like Mangwane Mazeka<sup>44</sup>, who is one of the beneficiaries that were identified in the village to receive groceries and food garden implements who said: “I feel very happy and I think I will have a good night sleep tonight”. The unemployed widow who stays with her grandchild said she was encouraged to start food garden. “I didn’t know that I could produce more food using land that is in my yard and I

can even make money by selling surplus produce,” said the encouraged Mazeka.

Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Senzeni Zokwana, MEC Mlibo Qhoboshiyane, Deputy Executive Mayor, Sixolile Mehlomakhulu and Mbizana Mayor, Makhaya Twabu led a delegation of agricultural experts and other government officials that worked in various agricultural initiatives in the community as part of marking the world food commemoration.

Among many projects the delegation visited the 59 hectare Mbongweni maize project that is supported by the Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform (ECDRDAR), as part of its initiative to assist communities to have self-sustainable income generating initiative and to reduce hunger. “We declared October as food security month to heighten public awareness on issues pertaining to food security in the country and also strengthening solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty,” said Minister Zenzeni Zokwana during his key note address

Zokwana said increasing levels of

absolute poverty have been recorded in the Eastern Cape, with about 74% of the people in the Eastern Cape live below the poverty line of R800 or less per month. In Alfred Nzo region, approximately 40% of the population live below the poverty line, whilst about 44.7% of people remain unemployed.

Zokwana added that the aim of this year’s World Food Day is to raise awareness by focusing on the role that households can play in eradicating hunger and poverty, providing food security for all and improving livelihoods. He further indicated that the campaign this year repositions households at the center of agricultural development and provide opportunities to promote a shift towards self-reliance for own home food production.

All households visited were taken through by an extension officer from the Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform on how to plant the vegetable gardens. Departments such as Social Development and South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) were attending to other social related challenges that the families face.

# NKANTOLO VILLAGE TO GET MULTI-MILLION RAND THUSONG CENTRE



*Above: Mayor of Mbizana Makhaya Twabu addressing community members during the outreach*

A daunting travelling by ward 2, 4 and 27 community members to Mbizana town to access much needed government services will come to an end soon as department of Human Settlement and Alfred Nzo District Municipality are constructing multi-million rand Thusong service Centre in Nkantolo village. Once complete, the 22.7 million rand service centre will house departments like Home Affairs, South African Social Security Agency (SASSA), Social Development, and department of Health to mention a few and the centre also includes a sport facility.

Communities of these three wards came in numbers to the Nkantolo community hall to witness the highlights of services they will be getting from the thusong Centre, as Alfred Nzo District Municipality took its services on wheel outreach to the area to familiarise communities about the services they would receive when construction of the centre is complete.

The services on wheels saw the departments such as Labour, Home Affairs, as well as state agencies which included SASSA and Coega Development Agency, rendering their services on the day. Alfred Nzo District Municipality's Special Programmes Unit (SPU) also shared information to the community about youth opportunities.

A very delighted Masinisa Mantusi, 28, said she had been thinking of going to town to apply for an identity document (ID) for a very long time but could not, as she did not have transport fare. "I am so happy that I finally applied for my ID, I thank Home Affairs for coming to our village," she excitedly said.

Nombe Nyathi, 67, had her state grant card broken and she was given a new card after visiting SASSA desk during the services on wheels. "We thank government for bringing these essential services closer to our homes," she said.

Meanwhile, Mbizana Local Municipality Mayor, Makhaya Twabu, said it was government's desires to serve people closer to where they live. "This is what we are striving to do, to take government to the people," said Twabu.

He also urged communities to look after the facility and all other infrastructure designed to better their lives. Twabu said once the structure is complete the leadership of both Alfred Nzo District Municipality, Mbizana Local Municipality, sector departments and state agencies working with traditional leadership of the area would officially handover the facility to the community.

# MATATIELE MUSIC FESTIVAL BOOSTS LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Thousands of revellers packed the Matatiele Old Rugby ground where they were serenaded by

top South African musicians during the 5th annual Matatiele Music Festival held during the festive season.

The festival has become the must attend event on the entertainment calendar for partygoers in the and it is also drawing attendance from across the province of the Eastern Cape, while others coming from neighbouring provinces like KwaZulu Natal, Free State and as far as Lesotho.

The lineup of artists included Nomvula hit maker, Nathi Mankayi, Ringo Madlingozi, Jaziel Brothers, Professor, Zonke to mention a few and they shared the stage with local artists like Msa Mahlangu, Jabu, S'bu entertained the crowd throughout the night.

Opening the festival Mayor of Matatiele Local Municipality, Cllr. Momelezi Mbedla, said they were happy with the turnout, as more than 5 000 people attended the event. "Matatiele Local Municipality is starting to see the fruits of hosting the annual music festival". This year we have seen other social partners joining to support the event like the Alfred Nzo District Municipality and the Department of Sports, Recreation Arts and Culture," said Mayor Mbedla.

"The project's main objective sought to establish an event that would act as a catalyst for economic development and it can also increase the influx of visitors and potential investors to the municipality during the festive season and beyond.

He further said they are indeed meeting this target, our guest houses, retail outlets, street vendors and other small business owners are benefitting immensely during the festival.

Mayor Mbedla concluded by saying that the municipality has included local crafters from across the district were offered space to exhibit their products and also local contractors benefitted from the event.

Nathi Mankayi who performed the



*Above: Nathi Mankayi and Vusi Nova entertaining the crowd with the hit song of Nomvula*



*Above: Crowd enjoying the festival*



*Above: Professor performing his popular songs*

popular song Nomvula said: "It feels good to perform just few kilometres from my home town, Maclear, and the crowd was great, singing along every song I perfumed", said Nathi. Mbedla thanked revellers for attending and for their

patience in long queues. The festival was a partnership between Matatiele Local Municipality and Alfred Nzo District Municipality.

# MORE THAN 500 LEARNERS GET A NEW SCHOOL IN MBIZANA



*Above: newly built state of the art Phandulwazi Senior Primary School*

More than 500 learners now enjoy learning in new classes as the Department of Education in partnership with Mbizana Local Municipality officially opened newly built Phandulwazi Senior Primary School (SPS) which is situated at Madiba village in Mbizana as part of promoting access to education in rural areas.

Speaking during the official opening of the school, Chairperson of the National Assembly's Portfolio Committee on Education, Fundile Gade (MP), encouraged the teachers to be dedicated to their jobs and make sure that they change the situation of the disadvantaged children through quality education.

"This state of the art school reaffirms our commitment as government to eradicate mud schools in rural areas such as this village," said Gade.

Mbizana Local Municipality Mayor, Makhaya Twabu encouraged learners to adopt the culture of reading in order to be top achievers. "We want each of you to be among the top achievers in the country and keep that consistency to Grade 12. As Mbizana Local Municipality we are here to support you and award bursaries to



*Above: Chairperson of the Department of Education Portfolio Committee, Mr Fundile Gade, Mbizana Mayor, Makhaya Twabu, Chief Baleni and Ward 25 Councillor Mrs Mteki are officially opening newly built Phandulwazi SPS.*

further your studies, only if you produce good quality results", added Twabu.

Phandulwazi SPS Principal, Mrs. Mdingi said, she was excited that eventually they got to witness their long time wish of teaching and learning in a proper school infrastructure.



# TOP 5 ST GEORGES LEARNERS RECEIVE BURSARY TO FURTHER THEIR STUDIES



*Above: Deputy Minister, Stella Ndabeni—Abrahams looking on as learners enjoy their new tablets in the new cyber lab at St Georges Senior Secondary School*

“Be the best Mandela you can be in this lifetime with the resources and opportunities you are exposed to.” Those were the words of the Deputy Minister of Communications, Stella Ndabeni – Abrahams to St Georges Senior Secondary School learners during the back to school outreach held at the school in Mount Frere recently.

The back to school outreach was aimed at celebrating first 75.4% matric pass rate the school obtained and to encourage excellence. Previously the school did not have grade 12 as it was the junior secondary school.

During the celebrations, Deputy Minister of Communications, Stella Ndabeni – Abrahams awarded bursaries to five top achievers to further their studies in broadcasting and

communication fields.

Ndabeni – Abrahams also presented the school with Vodacom sponsored cyber lab that comprise of 26 tablets, master laptop, printer, data projector and server.

SABC Foundation also handed school uniforms to 100 needy learners.

Addressing the gathering Deputy Minister challenged learners to achieve 100% pass rate compared with 2015 matric results.

Eastern Cape Education MEC, Mandla Makupula, attributed some of the challenges facing the education system in the province to lack of involvement of parents amongst other things. He encouraged parents to take charge of their children’s future by making sure that they

are directly involved in their children’s education including choosing subjects for a proper career path.

SABC Foundation CEO, Irish Cupido, said the initiative was part of their contribution towards nation building and by making sure that the foundation intervenes positively to the lives of the less fortunate.

The Back to school outreach was initiated by SABC Foundation and TruFM in partnership with Alfred Nzo Development Agency, Department of Education, Umzimvubu Local Municipality and Alfred Nzo District Municipality.

# AN AIDS FREE GENERATION IS POSSIBLE: IT BEGINS WITH YOU

Every South African is confident that one day we shall have an AIDS free generation, where everyone is responsible enough to protect his/ her partner from the virus, these were the sentiments of stakeholders and communities during an Aids day commemoration held at Moaneng in Matatiele.

World Aids day is celebrated to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and to also remember loved ones who have died from the virus and its related illnesses, whilst also mobilising communities to work together to fight the scourge and also showing solidarity with people living with HIV/AIDS. This year's event was held at Moaneng village in Matatiele where communities came in numbers to commemorate this day.

Speaking during the day Alfred Nzo District Municipality, Deputy Executive Mayor, Cllr. Sixolile Mehlomakhulu said no one must discriminate someone who is infected and affected by the virus, as we are living in a democratic country.

“This event here today reminds us that HIV and AIDS is still in existence, as government we are trying by all means to prevent the spread of the disease and we call upon our communities to work with us in fighting the virus” said Mehlomakhulu.

All the people that were part of the event were wearing a red ribbon as a symbol of their commitment to the fight against the disease and support to those that are infected and affected.

World AIDS Day, is held on the 01 December every year since 1987 and is dedicated to raising awareness about the pandemic; government and health officials, non-governmental organisations and individuals around the world observe the day, often with education on AIDS prevention and control.

Matankiso Thane, 33, who is villager at Moaneng was pleased about the information she received saying government should keep on informing



*Above: Communities of ward 16 listening attentively at the District World Day*



*Above: Deputy Executive Mayor, Cllr. Sixolile Mehlomakhulu delivering key note address at the District World Aids Day at Moaneng Village in Matatiele*

dangers of not using a condom, having multiple partners and the stigma which is experienced by those that are infected. Meanwhile, Ralinku Ralinku, 19, said they feel so great to see visibility of government in their area to educate and inform people about HIV and AIDS. “We stay in deep rural areas where many people are not well informed about benefits of using a condom and its importance in preventing unplanned pregnancy, sexual transmitted infections and other related diseases” said Ralinku. The deputy executive and councillors also handed over some social

South African Security Services Agency (SASSA).

# MONUMENT UNVEILED TO REMEMBER AMAXESIBE CHIEF

The Amaxesibe nation came together in Mount Ayliff recently to unveil a monument for Chief Fikeni, one of the nation's brave traditional leaders.

The monument erected at Ndzongiseni village which is just few kilometres from the town of Mount Ayliff is not only a memorial for the chief, who lived in the 1800's but also for his wives, who played a pivotal role in the upliftment of the Fikeni chiefdom, they also spearheaded the introduction of christianity and education in the region.

Chief Fikeni, the son of Chief Mjoli and grandson of Sinama, the paramount chief of the Mganu Xesibe tribe, was born in 1820 and died in 1870. Xesibe is the imfusi (one who was born after) of twins Mpondo and Mpondomise.

Among his descendant is the renowned independent political analyst Professor Somadoda Fikeni, who spent more than 25 years researching the history of less documented Amaxesibe nation. Somadoda called upon other traditional leaders within the Xesibe dynasty to erect memorials for their ancestors and have the history of Amaxesibe re-written and properly document by the Amaxesibe themselves.

Fikeni and his five wives – Manguse, Magxumisa, Manyangule, MaMaqanda and MaRhadebe were instrumental in encouraging the Methodist church missionaries to start a church in the Xesibe land. Currently, there are more than five Fikeni family members who are ministers in the Methodist Church of South Africa. Fikeni's monument, which was designed by Somadoda and IT specialist Afika Fikeni, has his grave flanked by bible and cross symbolizing Christianity and on top is a shield, spear and knob kerrie, symbolising traditional leadership. Fikeni said they were fortunate in that although their ancestors died centuries ago, they still knew where they were buried and it had not been difficult to erect the monument and build the tombstone. The royal family also recognised the role played by his mother, Majali Fikeni, whose grave lies



*Above: The unveiling of a monument at Ndzongiseni Village in Mount Ayliff to remember AmaXesibe Chief and his wives*



*Above: Dr. Somadoda Fikeni followed by Dr. Brigalia Bam and family members at the unveiling of Chief Fikeni tombstone*

less than 100m from her sons.

“We sometimes forget about the role played by wives of the traditional leaders or their aunts and daughters. Significant to this event, is recognition of the role played women in the whole exercise, including the wives,” said Fikeni.

“The reason we suffer is because we are not clear about our history, we are not conscious about our culture, we need to be informed about our history so that we can make informed choices. “This event to the Xesibe people is a significant step towards preserving our heritage,” said Fikeni. He further indicated that the Xesibe tribe had played a significant role and yet there was no history book on the community. “You will find that our

history has been downplayed, for example the defeat of Shaka Zulu, who was seen as unconquerable, by the joint forces of AmaBhaca and AmaXesibe, which was led by Nogula on the side of AmaXesibe”. Speaking at the event Dr. Brigalia Bam, whose is the former chairperson of Independent Electoral Commission said many women have played a big role in traditional leadership which includes among many the role of bravery and unwavering support to their husband and sons. She also raised concerns that African culture is being diluted and erased by the youth that goes to multiracial schools. “Some forget about their roots, they cannot even speak their mother tongue or indigenous languages, they think if they speak E

# ALFRED NZO STRENGTHENS ITS “PEOPLE FIRST” PRINCIPLE

Alfred Nzo District Municipality has pledged to strengthen further the quality and accessibility of services to its customers by improving efficiency and accountability to the recipients of municipal services.

This was revealed by the Alfred Nzo District Municipality, Executive Mayor, Eunice Diko, during the Customer Care Day celebrations held at Alfred Nzo Conference Centre in Mount Ayliff.

Alfred Nzo District Municipality is one of the few municipalities in the country that have established a fully-fledged customer care unit with a functional customer care line.

The Alfred Nzo District Municipality Municipal Manager, Zamile Sikhundla, said customer care day was aimed at getting municipal servants striving for excellence in service delivery and commit to continuous service delivery improvements thus improving the living conditions of the people of this district. He said it was also a mechanism to educate municipal employees on how to hold themselves accountable for services they deliver.

“Improving efficiency in dealing with the communities we serve, we must show a very good attitude to our customers,” said Diko in her key note address during the customer care day.

Diko further urged all employees of the municipality to always be committed, effective and efficient when dealing with customers. “You must always have a heart that says ‘we belong, we care, we serve’ and that is the summary of the eight Batho Pele Principles,” she said.

Alfred Nzo District Municipality celebrated its Customer Day during Customer Service Week which is an international celebration of the importance of customer service and of the people who serve and support customers on a daily basis. The customer care day was held under the theme: “I am a customer and expect good services, you are a customer, I give you good service”.



*Above: Executive Mayor, Cllr E.N. Diko addressing the employees during the customer care day*



*Above: Municipal Manager, Mr Zamile Sikhundla encouraging the employees about the importance implementation of Batho Pele principles*



*Above: Employees gathered at the conference centre during the customer care day*

# TEAM ALFRED NZO FLIES THE FLAG THE DISTRICT HIGH



*Above: Alfred Nzo soccer team of officials and councillors doing what they know best in the soccer field as they are the SALGA champions of 2015*

Eastern Cape municipalities converged in the small town of Alice in Amathole District Municipality – to participate in the 5th Annual South African Local Government Association (SALGA) games.

The Alfred Nzo District senior soccer and under 19 volleyball teams were declared 2015 SALGA games champions for being unbeaten in this tournament.

Alfred Nzo District Municipality senior soccer team coach Mzimasi Mantshule said he was delighted that he claimed back the trophy after they were beaten in early stages of the tournament last year.

“We played as a team and we showed character and composure which took us to the finals, now we are the champions,” said Mantshule.

Meanwhile volleyball under 19 team coach, Fundiswa Nqamza, said her team played great volleyball from the start and pushed through to win in the finals.

“The team played very well and they were consistent throughout the tournament which made us to be champions,” said Nqamza.

Under 19 netball coach, Nomonde



*Above: Alfred Nzo netball team also scooped some medals during the games*

Gcwabe, said although her team did not make it to the top three, they appreciated the role played by Alfred Nzo District Municipality in making sure that youth do participate in these games. It is also important for youth to take these games serious as some players are being scouted and they might play for senior teams.

Other Alfred Nzo District teams who made to the top three were senior female volleyball and senior darts team.

The Alfred Nzo District Municipality was led by Cllr. Zuko Lwana, Portfolio Head, Sport, Arts and Culture Heritage and Libraries (SARCHL) accompanied by councillors from Umzimvubu Local Municipality, Ntabankulu Local Municipality, Matatiele Local Municipality and Mbizana.

# ALFRED NZO DISTRICT EMBARKED ON HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE AWARENESS



*Above: Municipal Health Services (MHS) practitioners doing visit to businesses in Mbizana*

Based on the escalating number of organo-phosphate poisoning (quick-phos) that has been reported by Eastern Cape Department of Health through the Mbizana's St Patrick's Hospital which has prompted Alfred Nzo District Municipality to work with relevant stakeholders to embark on an awareness drive on hazardous substances.

A number of death cases have been reported at St Patrick's hospital where it was identified that they are caused by the consumption of quick-phos. (Ipilisi ze tanki)

Alfred Nzo District Municipality working with the Department of Health visited big and small supermarkets, hawkers, and informal traders in Mbizana where they informed business owners about danger of hazardous chemicals also to alert them in complying with Hazardous Substances Act.

This was followed by raid in all businesses that are selling the products containing dangerous chemicals legally and illegally. The shops that were found to have been selling the substance illegally had swift



*Above: Municipal Health Services (MHS) practitioner educating hawkers on labelling, mixing hazardous substance with consumable products*

action taken against them.

Another awareness campaign took place at Nomlacu village where about ten cases of people consuming quick-phos were reported in just one month.

A 28 year old Thenjiwe Njisane, who is a Hawker at Mbizana taxi rank appreciated the awareness conducted by the district municipality saying she was not aware

that it was dangerous to put products that contain chemicals such as glycerin, Madubula and many others next to the fruit.

The Municipal Health Services will be rolling-out a series of these awareness campaigns in the entire district alerting communities about the danger of products that contain chemicals in lives of people and diseases associated with them.

# O.R. TAMBO WAS A PERFECT LEADER AND A PERFECT MAN



*Above: O. R. and Adelaide Tambo's tombstone*

Various political leaders and dignitaries, including President Jacob Zuma and Graca Machel descended at Wattville cemeteries to celebrate the lives of the ANC's revered leaders, Oliver and Adelaide Tambo. Tambo's family, among them his son Dali also attended.

Dali Tambo and his family together with the President of South Africa were all seated in front of the tombstone bearing Tambo's quote "It is our responsibility to break the barriers of division and create a country where there will be neither whites nor blacks, just South Africans free and united in diversity." This powerful quote by Oliver Tambo created the backdrop for the 98th birthday celebrations of the longest-serving president of the ANC at his gravesite in Wattville, Benoni. Guests and religious leaders gathered around Tambo's tombstone and placed a wreath on it.

A jovial mood pervaded the gravesite as those in the attendance shared fond memories on the life and times of Tambo

and the inspirational messages for which the leader is acclaimed. The guests as well as the hundreds of people who were gathered in the streets to watch from a distance also join in singing and dancing.

When President Zuma took to the podium, his face lit up when he spoke fondly of his friend and comrade, he reminded the audience of the ANC's success in liberating the country from oppression, attributing much of that to Tambo's leadership skills. "He was a perfect leader and a perfect man. He said "He became everything to us in the ANC."

Besides Tambo's accuracy, excellent negotiation skills and warm nature, Zuma highlighted his achievement in rallying the world against apartheid regime. He told the gathering that Tambo travelled around the globe mobilising other nations to impose sanctions on South Africa. He had achieved most of his objectives, thereby freeing the entire nation. "He made the world unite against apartheid,"

said President Zuma.

Mzamba Comprehensive High School and Didi Primary school from Mbizana Local Municipality where Tambo was born also participated in pre-programs that took place in the city of Ekurhuleni. Amongst the programs there was a debate in which they participated and the schools performed very well. They also took an educational tour to many places like Mandela's house, Gold Reef City, Freedom Park, Voortrekker Monument where they were thought about the history of the country.

O.R. Tambo's program was wrapped up by a panel discussion with the topic: Walter Sisulu, Nelson Mandela and O.R. Tambo what was their legacy in South Africa?

Tambo who would have celebrated his 98 birthday this year, died of a stroke in 1993 at the age of 75. He led the ANC during difficult times for 24 years.

# ALFRED NZO WOMEN GATHER TO MARK 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM



*Above: Bulekwa Mabengu who is Provincial Deputy Chairperson of Women's League addressing attendees of the gathering*

Hundreds of women from across the Alfred Nzo District Municipality gathered to mark the start of 16 days of activism against women and children abuse in style as they shared ways of empowerment among themselves.

The women's network Indaba was aimed at ensuring that women get information they need to take up economic opportunities available to end dependency syndrome on their male counterparts,

saw scores of women taking turns to share their business ideas, opportunities and women empowerment in general among other things discussed during this networking session.

"During this year's campaign of no violence against women and children abuse, all women organisations and formations must ensure that this campaign reaches the most rural areas of our district especially those notorious of abusing women and children in many forms such rape, emotional and physical abuse," said Alfred Nzo District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Eunice Diko during her welcoming remarks.

Diko further said: "As part of 16 Days



*Above: Mrs. C.V Damane, Chairperson of Older Person's Forum in the district encouraging women of the district to participate on government developmental programmes and also join structures of women on their localities*

of Activism we also need to raise awareness throughout society regarding persons with disabilities and strengthen government's call of respecting women, children and people with disabilities rights".

Special Programmes Unit Portfolio Head, Cllr. Beauty Maningi, said it was women's responsibility to lift other struggling women into realisation of their potential and those of their children by sharing much needed information that could better their lives. "Knowledge is power, that little knowledge you may have can better someone's life," said Maningi

encouraging women to have their small networking sessions in their own societies for information sharing purposes. She also said women must be united and say "Enough is enough, no to women and children abuse".

Speaking on behalf of Alfred Nzo District Women's Forum, Nomakhaya Ngabase, encouraged women to play their meaningful role in guiding the current and upcoming generations in that way shaping the future of the country and leaving great legacy to be followed by younger generation.



# PEACE MARCH DRAWS PARTNERSHIP TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN



*Above: Marchers during the peace march against women and children abuse in Mbizana*

Whilst President Zuma was busy launching the national 16 days campaign of no violence against women and children in Mahikeng in North West, calling for partnership to end violence against women and children, the Speaker of Council in Mbizana Local Municipality, Cllr Daniswa Mafumbatha was leading a multi stakeholder's peace march to mark the 16 days of activism in Alfred Nzo District.

“Today we marched to the Municipality to handover a petition to the Mayor. We want the Mayor to speak to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development on our behalf regarding many cases of women and children abuse that are being postponed and we don't see progress in these cases. We want to encourage women to stand up for themselves and fight against abuse and we would like to condemn some of the women who protect the perpetrators”, said Mafumbatha.

The march was organised by Mbizana

Local Municipality in partnership with Alfred Nzo District Municipality, Department of Social Development, and Department of Health, Civil Society Organisations, South African Council of Churches and other government departments.

Department of Social Development being the key partner in this launch, used the day to officially open the Mbizana Community Based Treatment Centre at St Patrick hospital. “Some of the people who abuse women and children are said to have done this being under the influence of drugs. We believe amongst the first things to do to fight women and children abuse is to deal with drug abuse which to some extent is a contributing factor”, said Siyabonga Mjoli, Social Development Manager in Mbizana. Mjoli was addressing a public engagement session after the launch and the peace march.

The department is mandated in terms of the prevention of and treatment of

Substance Abuse Act (Act of 2008) to deal with substance abuse. The centre operates Monday – Friday from 08:00 – 16:30. The centre is for outpatients and is manned by social workers and the services offered are free of charge offering: therapeutic consultation, assessment of patients, group counselling session and one on one counselling sessions.

The Speaker of Mbizana Council Daniswa Mafumbatha said the Mayor, Cllr. Makhaya Twabu had shown interest of partnering with the Department of Social Development in making sure that the centre is fully operational. “The Mayor has mentioned that he will interact with the MEC of the Department of Social Development to find out how best the municipality could partner with the department for the successful running of this centre.

## THROUGH THE LENSES



*Above : Big Nuz entertaining the crowd during the Matatiele Music Festival*



*Above : ANDM soccer with a trophy at the SALGA games held in Alice*



*Above: Fobane water treatment works is still under construction in Matatiele*



*Above: Unveiling of Monument at Ndzongiseni village in Mount Ayliff*



*Above: construction of Bomvini/Nyokweni water scheme in progress*



*Above: MPAC delegation led by Cllr Munyu accessing the progress at Ntibane/Mkbemane Water scheme*

## THROUGH THE LENSES



*Above: Attendees entertained by the musicians at the Matatiele Music festival*



*Above: Well known Ringo Madlingozi performing during the Matatiele Music festival*



*Above: Construction of waste water treatment works in progress in Ntabankulu Local Municipality*



*Above: Bomvini / Nyokweni water scheme which expected to bring credible water to Ntabankulu communities*



*Above: Municipal health services practitioners doing the awareness campaign at Mbizana Taxi rank*



*Above: Deputy Executive Mayor handing over food parcels to one of the community member during the district world AIDS day at Moaneng village in Matatiele*



Layout and Design by:



info@pilisogrphics.co.za

## VISION

A SELF-SUSTAINABLE MUNICIPALITY THAT GUARANTEES EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

## MISSION

CREATING A CONDUSIVE ENVIRONMENT BY IMPROVING HUMAN CAPABILITIES AND ENHANCING RELEVANT SKILLS, AND MAXIMIZING THE UTILISATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ITS COMMUNITIES.

## MOTTO

PLACE OF UNITY IN DIVERSITY

## CUSTOMER SHARE CALL LINE:

086 000 3781

Printed by:



083 347 5007

## Editorial Team and Contributors

Ndabuko Masumpa, Lubabalo Majenge, Ayanda Giyose, Zukiswa Pinyana, Mfuneko Mkhathi, Yamkela Mhlaluka, Ndyebo Kopo and Yandisa Dlembula

Alfred Nzo District Municipality Communicators  
"LIKE US ON FACEBOOK"  
Alfred Nzo District Municipality Communicators  
Follow us on Twitter on @AlfrednzoDM

ALFRED NZO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY  
ERF 1400 NTSIZWA STREET, MOUNT AYLIFF  
PRIVATE BAG X 511, MOUNT AYLIFF, 4735  
TEL : ( 039 ) 254 5000, FAX : ( 039 ) 254 0343  
WEBSITE : www.andm.gov.za