STELLENBOSCH
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MUNISIPALITEIT • UMASIPALA • MUNICIPALITY

NUUSBRIEF
IPHEPHANDABA
NEWSLETTER

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Van die Burgemeester
From the Mayor

Liewe Inwoners,

Ek wil hierdie Vrouemaand afskop deur ons nuwe vroulike Speaker vir Stellenbosch te verwelkom! Raadslid Wilhelmina (Mienie) Petersen is onlangs as nuwe Speaker van die Raad verkies. Sy mag wel 'n nuwe Speaker wees, maar is al 'n ou hand in ons Raad en het die afgelope twee jaar as Sweep diens gedoen.

Raadslid Mienie, soos almal haar ken, het in die vorige raadstermyn al gedien as 'n proporsionele Raadslid en is sedert 2016 die Wyksraadslid vir Wyk 2 in Franschhoek. Raadslid Mienie is die eerste vroulike Speaker van die Stellenbosch Munisipaliteit sedert die vorming in 2000. Soos u weet, is ons Munisipale Bestuurder ook 'n vrou. Wat 'n eer en voorreg om saam met sterk en knap vroue te werk.

Graag bedank ons die vorige Speaker, Raadslid Donovan Joubert, vir sy diens aan die Raad en wens hom sterkte toe in sy nuwe pos by die Wynland Distriksmunisipaliteit.

Die nuwe biblioteek in Groendal, Franschhoek, is uiteindelik voltooi! Dit is 'n wonderlike, moderne fasiliteit en ek weet ons inwoners gaan dit baie geniet. Die nuwe biblioteek bevat 'n rekenaarkamer, boeke vir kinders en volwassenes en 'n afdeling vir mense met visuele gestremdhede. Dit maak 'n nuwe wêreld vir ons inwoners oop en ons biblioteekdienste beplan lekker aktiwiteite soos poppekaste en storietyd. Ons werk saam met Na'libalie en die Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteek vir Blinders om

Dear Residents,

I want to kick of this Woman's Month by welcoming our new female Speaker for Stellenbosch! Councillor Wilhelmina (Mieinie) Petersen was recently elected as the new Speaker for Council. She might be a new Speaker, but she is an old hand in Council and served as the Whip for the past two years.

Councillor Mienie, as she is known, served as a proportional councillor in the previous term and is the ward councillor for Ward 2 in Franschhoek since 2016. Councillor Mienie is the first female Speaker for the Stellenbosch Municipality since its formation in 2000. As you know, the Municipal Manager is also a woman. What an honour it is to work with such strong, exceptional women.

I want to thank our previous Speaker, Councillor Donovan Joubert, for his service to Council and I wish him all the best with his new job at the Winelands District Municipality.

The new library in Groendal, Franschhoek, has finally been completed! It is a wonderful, modern facility and I know our residents will thoroughly enjoy it. The new library has a computer room, books for children and adults as well as a section for people with visual disabilities. This library opens up a new world for our residents and our library services are planning fun activities like puppet shows and story time. We are also working with Na'libalie and the South African Library for the Blind to provide quality services to all. The library will also deliver services to older residents and people with visual impairments who cannot visit the library directly.

Adv. Gesie van Deventer
UitvoerendeBurgemeester/
Executive Mayor
021 808 8002
mayor@stellenbosch.gov.za

SPAAR WATER
SAVE WATER

Ons Bome/ Our Trees
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STELLENBOSCH WCO 24
021-886 8976
SSI
SAFETY INITIATIVE

gehalte dienste aan almal te bring. Die biblioteek gaan ook dienste lewer aan ouer inwoners en mense met visuele gestremdhede wat nie kan uitgaan na die biblioteek nie.

Ek hoop u het Vrouedag en Vrouemaand herdenk en gevier. Vrouedag in Suid-Afrika word gevier ter herdenking van die meer as 20 000 vroue wat op 9 Augustus 1956 na die Uniegebou gestap het in protes teen die paswette. Dit bly steeds een van die grootste verset-aksies deur Suid-Afrikaanse vroue in ons geskiedenis. Vroue van alle kultuurgroepe het deelgeneem en hul stem verhef teen die diskriminerende apartheidswette van die destydse regering. Die optrede deur vroue was merkwaardig omdat politiek in daardie tydvak nie as vroue se speelveld gereken was nie en tradisionele rolle vir vroue nog baie sterk beklemtoon was. Hierdie vroue was baanbrekers en het dit moontlik gemaak vir vrouens om leierskaprolle in ons land in te neem.

Gedurende die vele Vrouedagviering, het ek weereens besef hoe ver ons al gekom het, maar ook hoe ver ons nog moet gaan. Ek wil tog al ons vroue aanmoedig om op te staan en hul stem te verhef teen enige diskriminasie wat hul mag ervaar. Ons het ’n verantwoordelikheid om rolmodelle te wees vir ons dogters en die vroue van more.

Laas jaar se ernstige droogte was vir my absoluut traumaties, want bome en plante is vir my ’n onontbeerlike deel van ons elke dag se bestaan en ekself is passievol oor die natuur. Dit was onmoontlik om voort te gaan met die normale boomprogram, maar ons het tog nie opgehou nie en het gefokus op die plant van inheemse bome wat meer waterwys is. Ons plant ook tans baie meer strategies om waterbronne te bewaar. Waar nodig, gebruik ons gryswater om ons bome nat te lei. Oral langs ons riviere, werk ons nou saam met verskeie rolspelers om indringerplante te verwyder en te verminder. Volgens Cape Nature kan die uithaal van indringer spesies, die afloopwater in riviere met tot 30% verhoog! September is weer Boomplantmaand en u sal sien ons plant ,ten spyte van die moeilike toestande, oral bome in die Munisipaliteit. Ek wil u tog aanmoedig om ook ‘n boom te plant in u tuin. Doen ‘n bietjie navorsing en kry ‘n inheemse boom wat geskik is vir ons omgewing. U kan ook ons parkeafdeling raadpleeg.

Bome is ‘n besonderse en belangrike deel van ons dorpe se erfenis en identiteit. Stellenbosch is selfs in die volksmond bekend as die Eikestad. Ongelukkig raak van ons ou eikereuse soms siek en al word hul behandel, raak sommige so gevaarlik vir die publiek dat hul verwyder moet word. Dit word egter nie sommer net besluit nie. Daar is ’n hele proses wat gevolg word wat verskeie rolspelers insluit.

Deurlopende bestuur en evaluasies van ons bome, geskied op ’n gereelde basis. Stellenbosch is in die bevoorregte posisie om van die beste boomkundiges in Suid-Afrika as deel van ons gemeenskap te hê. Ons maak reeds van die kundigheid gebruik, maar beplan ook om die samewerking op te skerp.

Die Munisipaliteit het ’n afdeling wat verantwoordelik is vir die instandhouding van ons dorp se bome. Ons het ook ’n Stedelike Boombestuursplan wat gedurende 2017 hersien is.

Nadat die bome deur die amptenare in beheer van stedelike bome ondersoek en geevalueer is, word die inligting met die Boom Adviesraad gekommunikeer. In gevalle van historiese

I hope you celebrated and commemorated Women’s Day and Women’s Month. Women’s Day in South Africa is celebrated to commemorate the more than 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings in 1956, in protest against the pass laws of the time. This is still one of the largest protest actions by South African women in our history. Women from all cultural groups took part and made their voices heard against the discriminating apartheid legislation implemented by the then government. The action taken by these women was remarkable because in during that time politics was not considered a place for women and the traditional roles for women was still very much emphasised. These women were pioneers and made it possible for other women in our country to take on leadership roles.

During the many Women’s Day celebrations, I realised again how far we have come, but also how far we still have to go. I want to encourage our women to stand up and make their voices heard against any form of discrimination they might experience. We have a responsibility to be role models for our daughters and the women of tomorrow.

The drought of the past year was very traumatic for me because trees and plants are an absolute necessity for our day to day existence and I am very passionate about nature. It was not possible to continue with our normal arbour program but we did not stop planting and instead focussed on indigenous trees that are more water wise. We are currently planting trees much more strategically to conserve water resources. Where necessary, we use grey water to water our trees. All along our rivers we work with various role players to remove and reduce invasive plant species. According to Cape Nature, by removing invasive species the runoff water into our rivers can be increased by up to 30%! September is Arbour Month and you will see us planting trees, in spite of the difficult circumstances, everywhere in the Municipality. I want to encourage you to also plant a tree in your garden. Do a bit of research and find an indigenous tree suited for our environment. You can also consult our Park Services.

Trees are a very special and important part of our towns’ heritage and identity. Stellenbosch is colloquially known as the “Eikestad” or City of Oaks. Unfortunately some of our oak giants get sick and even though they are treated, some of them become so dangerous to the public that they have to be removed. This is however not something that just happens without consideration. There is an entire process that is followed, which includes various role-players.

Evaluations of our trees are done on a regular basis. Stellenbosch is in the lucky position to have some of the foremost experts on trees in South Africa, as part of our community. We already make use of their expertise and we are working to strengthen the cooperation.

The Municipality has a section that is responsible for the maintenance of the trees in our towns and we also have an Urban Tree Management team, that was reviewed in 2017.

When the trees have been investigated and evaluated by the officials in charge of urban trees, the information is passed to the Tree Advisory Committee. In cases where historic

bome, soos ons eikebome, word Erfenis Wes-Kaap ook geraadpleeg en gevra vir insette. Ander kundiges word ook betrek voor die finale versoek aan die Direkteur Gemeenskap- en Beskermingsdienste voorgelê word. Dit is nooit 'n maklike besluit nie maar die veiligheid van ons inwoners moet voorkeur kry.

Daar bestaan reeds vir baie jare 'n Boom Advieskomitee in Stellenbosch. Enige inwoner is welkom om hom of haar beskikbaar te stel om op die komitee te dien. 'n Vergadering met die Belastingbetalersvereniging het ook reeds plaasgevind om moontlike belangstellendes te identifiseer om op die komitee te dien. Inwoners wat belangstel kan mnr Maindren Chettiar kontak by 021-8088132.

Selfs al moet ons gryswater gebruik, of uiters droogtebestande bome soos Spekbome plant, is bome as 'n nalatenskap net so belangrik soos enige ander kunswerk en boonop onontbeerlik vir ons eko-gesondheid. Die algemene boom van die jaar vir 2018 is die Geelhoutboom. Die rare boom vir hierdie jaar is die Witgatboom of Shepard's Tree, soos hy in Engels bekend staan.

Onthou tog dat ons steeds by vlak 6B waterbeperkings bly. Al het ons by tye goeie reën gekry, was en is daar tans weer ondergemiddelde reënval by tye en is die damme nog glad nie vol nie. Die waterbeperkings soos afgekondig in die Staatskoerant, bly dus steeds staan en volgens die Nasionale Departement van Water en Sanitasie sal dit nie verander tensy die damme 85 % vol is nie.

Ek het die afgelope tyd verskeie navrae van inwoners gekry wat my gevra het oor rehabilitasie sentrums vir persone wat sukkel met dwelmmisbruik. Die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Maatskaplike ontwikkeling het 'n baie handige webblad waar hulle al die hulpbronne wat beskikbaar is vir voorkoming en behandeling bespreek. Daar is verskeie plekke regoor die Provinsie wat voorkomende behandeling en rehabilitasie werk doen, en al die kontakbesonderhede is ook op die blad beskikbaar. Die blad het verskeie inligtingstukke wat u kan aflaai en hulpbronne wat u binne die gemeenskap kan gebruik. Gaan kyk gerus by www.westerncape.gov.za/substance-abuse. Daar is ook kontaknommers indien u voel u graag met iemand wil praat.

Soos u weet, is Stellenbosch onlangs geruk deur onluste. Dit het ontstaan as gevolg van onwettige grondbesettings, aanvanklik op munisipale grond en die tweede keer op private landbougrond. Toe wettige Hofinterdikte toegepas word en die polisie en wetstoepassingseenhede optree, is infrastruktuur, voertuie en besighede geteiken en beskadig. Die gevolg is dat die bou van behuising en uitvoer van projekte in Kayamandi tydelik gestaak moes word. En ons werk juis hard daaraan om behuisingsprojekte so vinnig moontlik uit te rol. Daar is baie faktore wat behuising kompleks maak en 'n rol speel in die tempo waarteen ons die projekte kan uitrol. Sonering, befondsing van die Nasionale en Provinsiale Regering (ons is net 'n agent vir hulle en het nie self 'n wetlike mandaat om huise te mag bou nie) en ook die beskikbaarheid van grond. Onwettige besetters maak hierdie proses nog stadiger, want hul het eise vir dienste en huise. Daar is 'n waglys waarvolgens ons moet werk, en ons mag dus nie sekere groepe prioritiseer nie. Ons bly egter in deurlopende kontak met al die rolspelers binne die

trees are involved, like the oak trees, we also contact Heritage Western Cape to obtain their inputs. Other experts are also involved before a request is presented to the Director of Community and Protection Services. It is never an easy decision but the safety of our residents must take priority.

A Tree Advisory Committee has been in existence for several years in Stellenbosch. Any resident is welcome to make themselves available to serve on the committee. A meeting with the Ratepayers Association has already taken place to identify people who might be interested to serve on the committee. Residents who are interested can contact Maindren Chettiar on 021 808 8132.

Even if we have to use grey water, or plant trees that are more drought resilient like Elephant Bush (Spekboom), trees are as important for our heritage as any piece of art and critically important for our ecological health. The common tree for 2018 is the Yellowwood tree. The rare tree this year is the Shepard's Tree or the "Witgatboom" as it is known in Afrikaans.

Please remember that we are continuing with level 6B Water Restrictions. Although we have received good rainfall at times, we are continuing to experience less than average rainfall and the dams are not close to being completely filled. The water restrictions, as announced in the Government Gazette, are still in place and will remain so. According to the Department of Water and Sanitation, restrictions will not be eased until the dams are at least 85% full.

Lately, I received various enquiries from residents who asked about rehabilitation facilities for people who struggle with substance abuse. The Western Cape Department of Social Development has a very useful webpage where they discuss all the resources available for the treatment and prevention of substance abuse. There are various places across the Province that conduct treatment and rehabilitation and all their contact details are available on department's website. The website also has resources that can be downloaded and that you can use within your community. Go and have a look at www.westerncape.gov.za/substance-abuse . The site also has contact details if you feel you want someone to talk to.

As you know, Stellenbosch was recently shaken by protests. This came about due to illegal land occupations; first on municipal land and then a second time on private agricultural land. When legal court interdicts were executed and the Police and our Law Enforcement acted, infrastructure, vehicles and businesses were targeted and damaged. This resulted in certain housing and other projects in Kayamandi temporarily being stopped. We work as hard as possible to complete planned housing projects as quickly as possible. There are many factors that make housing a very complicated issue and it plays a role in the pace at which we can roll out projects. Zoning, funding from National and Provincial Government (we are only an agent for them and do not have a legal mandate to build houses) and also the availability of land. Illegal occupations delay these processes even more because they have demands for

gemeenskap, ook die protesgroepe en probeer so dat almal op datum bly van ons vordering en ons planne.

Daar is uitstekende planne in plek en projekte het reeds begin om oraloor die Munisipaliteit meer huise en dienste te voorsien. Die begroting maak vir elke gebied voorsiening en u is welkom om meer inligting hieroor aan te vra. Omdat Kayamandi nou op die voorgrond is, noem ek van die projekte wat daar in plek is vir die volgende 3 jaar:

- Die vestiging van ‘n informele handelsterrein in Kayamandi - R4 900 000
- ‘n Nuwe Taxi-staanplek - R3 000 000
- Nuwe voetoorgange insluitend brug oor die R304 - R11 000 000
- Behuisingsprojek vir Kayamandi in Watergang en Sone O - R14 510 000
- Die elektrifisering van Enkanini - R15 880 000
- Kayamandi Dorpskern siviele infrastruktuurontwikkeling - R6 047 150
- Nuwe stormwater dreineering vir Kayamandi en Enkanini – R 2 000 000
- Nuwe reservoir vir– R 16 000 000

Soos reeds genoem is hierdie slegs sommige van die projekte vir Kayamandi oor die volgende 3 jaar. Al die projekte saam vir die area beloop amper R 90 miljoen vir die volgende 3 jaar.
Die ander gebiede hoef regtig nie afgeskeep te voel nie, want ek het seker gemaak die begroting is eweredig versprei. Ek deel graag in die komende nuusbriewe die projekte vir ander gebiede met u.
Die eerste bome bot reeds en ek is so dankbaar dat die winterreën ons natuurskoon weer laat herstel het. Die hele Munisipale gebied bot en blom en dis vir my ongelooflik mooi. Die lente hier is ’n absolute vreugde en ek soek verskonings om buite die kantore te gaan werk en ry dikwels op pad werk toe sommer ompaaie net om my te verlustig in al die mooi wat ek sien! Ek hoop u almal vind hierdie lente-vreugde in die natuurlike mooi van die gebied waarin ons bly.

Beste Wense en Groete
Burgemeester Gesie

services and houses. There is a waiting list according to which we must work and we may not prioritise some groups above others. We however remain in contact with all the stakeholders in the community, including the protesting groups and we try to keep everyone updated with our progress and our plans.

There are excellent plans in place and projects that have already started to deliver more houses and services across the municipality. The budget provides for every area and you are more than welcome to request more information about this. Because Kayamandi has been in the news lately, I will mention some of the projects that are in place for the next three years:

- The establishment of a new informal trading space in Kayamandi – R4 900 000
- A new Taxi-stand – R3 000 000
- New pedestrian walkways including a bridge across the R304 – R11 000 000
- Housing project for Kayamandi in Watergang and Zone O - R14 510 000
- The electrification of Enkanini – R15 880 000
- Kayamandi Central Business area civil infrastructure development – R6 047 150
- New storm water drainage for Kayamandi and Enkanini - R 2 000 000
- New reservoir for Kayamandi – R 16 000 000

As I mentioned, this is only some of the projects for Kayamanid over the next three years. All the projects for the area over the next three years amounts to almost R 90 million.

The other areas do not have to feel neglected at all because I made sure that the budget is distributed equally. I will gladly share the information about the projects in other regions in upcoming newsletters.

The first trees are in bloom and I am so thankful for the winter rains that refreshed nature. The entire municipal area is blossoming and it is incredibly beautiful to me. Spring is here and it is an absolute joy. I am looking for excuses to work outside of the office. I often take detours just to enjoy all the beauty around me! I hope you all find joy in the Spring and happiness in this beautiful region we live in.

Best Wishes
Mayor Gesie