



## Van die Burgemeester From the Mayor

Liewe Inwoners

*Ek kan nie anders as om opnuut dankbaar te wees vir ons pragtige vallei met die wonderlike mense wat hier woon. Ten spyte van die moeilike tyd wat ons deur gaan wys moeder natuur net haar beste en bring sy weer vir ons die mooiste maande. En met al die goeie winterreën pronk ons vallei in haar beste kleure!*

### COVID-19

Die realiteit van die pandemie is steeds met ons. Regoor die wêreld is COVID-19 steeds elke dag in die hooftrekke en alle aanduidings is dat dit vir 'n geruime tyd nog so sal wees. Soos ons nader aan die einde van die jaar beweeg, begin ons ook die moontlikheid van 'n COVID Kersfees in die gesig staar, en 'n mens kan nie anders as om 'n bietjie hartseer te voel nie.

Regoor die wêreld word entstowwe getoets en hoop almal dat daar binnekort 'n volhoubare en suksesvolle behandeling gevind sal word. Dit is egter uiters belangrik dat ons nie sal laat slap lê met pogings om die verspreiding van die virus te bekamp en te beperk nie. Dra asseblief 'n masker wanneer u buite en in openbare spasies rond beweeg. Was of reinig u hande gereeld en behou 'n sosiale afstand van ten minste 1,5 meter. Ten tye van die skrywe het die data gewys dat die

Dear Residents,

*I cannot help but be grateful for the beautiful and the wonderful people who live here. Despite the difficult time we are going through, nature is showing us her best side and is again presenting us with the most beautiful spring months. And with all the wonderful winter rain that has fallen, our entire valley is covered in the most beautiful colours.*

### COVID – 19

The reality of the pandemic is still with us. Across the world COVID-19 is still making headlines and all signs point to the fact that this will continue to be so for some time to come. As we move closer to the end of the year, we are also facing the possibility of Christmas with COVID. One cannot help but feel a little melancholy about it.

Across the world vaccines are being tested and we all hope that a sustainable and successful treatment may become available soon. It is however critically important that we do not relax our efforts to curb and limit the spread of the virus. Please wear a mask when you go outside and move around in public spaces. Wash your hands frequently or sanitise with an alcohol based sanitizer. Please maintain a social distance of at least 1,5m. At the time of writing this, the data has shown



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**SPAAR WATER  
SAVE WATER**

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infeksiëkoers in die Wes-Kaap begin stabiliseer. Die Premier en die Gesondheidsdepartement beklemtoon egter die moontlikheid van 'n tweede vlag infeksies. As elke persoon saam werk en sy deel doen kan ons dit moontlik vermei of die inpak van 'n tweede vlag infeksies baie verminder.

Ek wil ook namens die Munisipaliteit en ons inwoners dankie sê aan al die gesondheidswerkers wat deel uitmaak van die eerste linie van verdedigers teen die virus. Dit is nie 'n maklike tyd nie, en oral sien ons die stories van absolute toewyding en dapperheid. Baie dankie!

### **Webinar**

Ons het ook ons eerste aanlyn seminar, of webinar, gehou om met ons plaaslike besighede te praat en eerstehands te hoor hoe COVID-19 hulle affekteer. Dit is werklik hartverskeurend om te hoor hoe ons plaaslike besigheidseienaars sukkel om kop bo water te hou in hierdie tyd. Besighede wat al vir jare bestaan is lam gelê die staat van inperking en verskeie besighede moes al hul deure sluit.

Ons gaan aanhou kontak maak met ons plaaslike besighede en ons werk saam met ander rolspelers op om 'n plan bymekaar te stel om ons plaaslike besighede mee te help en so werksgeleenthede te bewaar. Ek wil u uitnoui om met ons kontak te maak in dien u enige voorstelle of insette het oor hoe ons ons besighede kan bystaan in hierdie moeilike tyd.

### **Toerismemaand/Erfenismaand**

Gedurende September vier ons toerisme en erfenis. Hierdie twee temas is vanjaar belangriker as ooit. Ons hele streek is afhanklik van toerisme en ons erfenis was nog altyd 'n integrale deel daarvan. Die pandemie het egter alles kom verander en al ons besige dorpie is stiller en mis ons die kleurvolle besoekers van regoor die wêreld.

Die pandemie se impak op toerisme is geweldig groot en gaan moontlik nog vir jare gevoel word. Die onderskeie toerisme rolspelers in ons streek is egter besig met verskeie wonderlike inisiatiewe om ons besoekers terug te verwelkom en ook seker te maak dat wanneer die internasionale bedryf weer heropen, almal veilig by ons kan kom kuier. Die nasionale regering het plaaslike regulasies onlangs verslap na vlak 2 wat beteken dat

that the infection rates in the Western Cape are stabilising. The Premier and the Department of Health has however emphasised that a second wave of infections is possible. If every person cooperates by doing their bit, we can possibly avoid or minimise the impact of a second wave of infections.

On behalf of our residents and the Municipality I want to take the opportunity to thank our healthcare workers who forms part of the first line of defence against the virus. It has not been an easy task and everywhere we see stories of their absolute dedication and bravery.

### **Webinar**

We have conducted our first ever online seminar or webinar with local businesses to get first-hand information from them about how COVID-19 has affected them. It is truly devastating to hear how so many business owners struggle to keep afloat during this time. Businesses that have existed for years have been crippled by the lockdown and many had to close their doors permanently.

We will continue to make contact with local businesses and we are working with other stakeholders to put together a plan to assist local businesses and to help protect job opportunities. I want to invite you to make contact with us if you have any suggestions or inputs about how we can continue to assist our businesses during this time.

### **Tourism Month /Heritage Month**

During September we celebrate heritage and tourism. This year these two themes are more important than ever. Our entire region relies on tourism and our heritage is an integral part of this. The pandemic has however changed everything and our towns have experienced a lack of visitors and activities. We miss the colourful visitors from all over the world.

The impact of the pandemic on tourism has been significant and will possibly be felt for years to come. The numerous role-players in the tourism industry from across our region are however busy with various wonderful initiatives to welcome visitors back and to make sure that when the international component of the industry reopens, everyone can come and visit us safely. The national government recently relaxed

Suid-Afrikaners binne die grense van die land kan reis. Nooi dus u vriende na ons wonderlike vallei vir 'n unieke wegbreek. Dit is ook nou die tyd vir u, as inwoner, om gebruik te maak van die geleentheid om van ons wêreldbekende aantreklikhede te gaan verken as 'n toeris. Dis 'n ongelooflike ervaring om plekke te verken wat ons nie eintlik so goed ken as wat ons dink nie.

Ondersteun asseblief ons plaaslike besighede en toerisme bedryf gedurende die tyd. Ek is oortuig daarvan u sal verras wees met wat u als kan sien en doen, net 'n binne ons eie streek. En deur ons eie "locals" te ondersteun help u om ons plaaslike besighede se deure oop te hou en werkseleenthede veilig te hou. Gebruik dus hierdie Erfenis- en Toerismemaand en verken ons vallei. Ons sal nie ons natuurlike of geskiedkundige erfenis kan onderhou en bewaar sonder die hulp van ons besoekers nie.

### **Raadsake**

Ons Raadsvergaderings en die Burgemeesterskomiteevergaderings vind steeds elektronies plaas. Indien u sou belangstel om die vergadering by te woon, kan u die skakel op ons webblad of sosiale media blaaie vind. Dit word gewoonlik 'n dag of twee voor die geskeduleerde vergadering beskikbaar gemaak.

'n Item wat by ons onlangse raadsvergadering gedien het is die Probleem Eiendomme Verordening wat finaal deur die Raad goedgekeur is en nou in die provinsiale staatskoerant gepubliseer sal word. Die verordening is goed deurgetrap die afgelope paar jaar en het verskeie kere uitgegaan vir openbare deelname. Die verordening se doel is om probleem eiendomme en of geboue aan te spreek. Dit handel dus spesifiek oor verlate, gevaarlike, ongewenste of vervalle eiendomme en of geboue. Ongelukkig, is daar 'n paar sulke eiendomme binne ons grense en sulke eiendomme skep die geleentheid vir ongewenste of onwettige aktiwiteite. Die vorige verordening was in 1962 gepromulgeer en was nie meer voldoende om die huidige uitdaginge aan te spreek nie. Die nuwe verordening sal die munisipaliteit in staat stel om strenger op te tree teen die eienaars van sulke geboue of eiendomme. Die verordening kan op ons webblad gevind word indien u dit sou wou bestudeer.

### **Lisensies**

As gevolg van die staat van inperking het die nasionale

regulations to level 2 which means that we can travel within the borders of South Africa. Please invite your friends to our wonderful valley for a unique breakaway. It is also the perfect time for you as resident to use the opportunity to explore our world famous attractions as a tourist in your own town. It is an incredible experience to explore places we think we know well, just to discover some unexpected surprise.

Please support our local businesses, hospitality and tourism industries during this time. I am convinced you will be surprised with all you can see and do, just within our own region. And by supporting our locals you help local businesses to keep their doors open and protect jobs. Please use this Heritage and Tourism Month to explore our valley. We will not be able to protect and maintain our natural or historical resources without your assistance.

### **Council Matters**

Our Council Meetings and Mayoral Committee meetings are still continuing electronically. If you are interested to sit in on a meeting, you can go to our social media pages or to our website for the link. The link is usually made available a day or two before the scheduled meeting.

An item that served at a recent council meeting is the Problem Properties By-law that has now finally been approved by Council and must now be gazetted. This by-law was thoroughly work shopped over the past few years and went out for public comment on several occasions. The purpose of this by-law is to address properties or buildings that have become problematic. It focuses specifically on abandoned, dangerous and neglected properties or buildings. Unfortunately we have a few properties like that in our region and these properties tend to create opportunity for unwanted or illegal activities. The previous by-law was promulgated in 1962 and was not sufficient to address current challenges. The new by-law will enable the municipality to act against owners of neglected properties or buildings. The by-law can be found on our website if you want to familiarise yourself with it.

### **Licenses**

Due to the lockdown period, national government announced in July that all driver's licenses, learner licences, temporary licences and professional driving

regering in Julie aangekondig dat alle bestuurderlisensies, leerderlisensies, tydelike bestuurderlisensies en professionele bestuurspermitte wat verval het tussen 26 Maart en 31 Augustus 2020 verleng word tot 31 Januarie 2021. Inwoners wat dus hierdeur geraak word kry dus 'n bietjie ekstra tyd om hieraan aandag te gee. Ek wil u egter aanmoedig om nie te lank te wag nie. Ons Verkeersdepartement is reeds oop en kan u help met die hernuwingsproses. Die hernuwing van bestuurderlisensies vind plaas van Maandae tot Donderdae. Die Departement se besigheidsure is Maandag tot Vrydag 07:00 tot 15:00 en Saterdag 08:00 tot 12:00. Indien u enige navrae het kan u hulle ook skakel by 021 808 8822.

So gaan ons lente binne en oral om ons begin ons tuine kleur wys. Die vrugtebome in ons vallei is oortrek met bloeisele en so met die berge as agtergrond, besef ek weereens dat ons in een van die MOOISTE dele van die wêreld bly. Ek geniet selfs deesdae 'n bietjie tuinmaak en dit is 'n welkome breek tussen al die aanlynvergaderings deur. Daar is vir my min dinge so verfrissende soos 'n jong tuin wat die belofte van 'n groen somer inhou!

Bly asseblief veilig.

*Beste Wense  
Burgemeester Gesie*



Have you seen the 5 beautiful public art installations across Stellenbosch? The [#MaskedMasterpieces](#) are prints based on 5 portraits by famous South African artists and encourage the wearing of a mask in public. These prints are sponsored by private individuals or companies supporting the #MaskedMasterpieces initiative aimed at promoting art and creating a platform to donate to a bursary fund for University of Stellenbosch students who have been financially affected by COVID-19. Residents and visitors can make a contribution to the fund via SnapScan code located at the installations. These donations will enable students to continue their studies.

***Het u die 5 pragtige kunsinstallasies gesien wat regoor Stellenbosch opgerig is? Die #MaskedMasterpieces is gebaseer op 5 portrette wat geskilder is deur bekende Suid-Afrikaanse kunstenaars en moedig mense aan om 'n masker te dra in die openbaar. Die replikas word geborg deur privaat individue en maatskappye wat die #MaskedMasterpieces inisiatief ondersteun. Die inisiatief bevorder kuns en skep 'n platform vir donasies tot die Universiteit van Stellenbosch se beurs vir studente wat finansiell deur COVID-19 geraak word. Inwoners en besoekers kan 'n bydrae maak tot die fonds deur middel van die SnapScan kode by die kunsinstallasies. Die donasies sal studente in staat stel om hul studies te voltooi.***

permits that have expired between 26 March 2020 and 31 August 2020 has been extend to 31 January 2021. Residents that have been affected are thus allowed some extra time to tend to these matters. I want to encourage you to please not wait too long. Our traffic department has already opened and can assist you with the renewal process. The renewal of driver's licenses takes place Mondays to Thursdays. The Traffic Department's operating hours are from Monday to Friday, 07:00 to 15:00 and Saturday's from 08:00 to 12:00. If you have any queries, please contact 021 808 8822.

As we progress into spring, our gardens are turning into showpieces of colour. The fruit trees in our valley are covered in blossoms and with the mountains in the background I once again realise that we live in the MOST BEAUTIFUL part of the world. These days, I am once again enjoying some gardening and it is a welcome break from all the online meetings. There are few things I find as rejuvenating as a young garden full of promise of a beautiful green summer.

Please stay Safe.

Until Next Time.

*Best Wishes  
Mayor Gesie*

