STELLENBOSCH
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MUNISIPALITEIT • UMASIPALA • MUNICIPALITY

NUUSBRIEF IPHEPHANDABA NEWSLETTER

UITGAWE 42 - 2018 • EDITION 42 - 2018

Van die Burgemeester
From the Mayor

Liewe Inwoners,

Die Bolandse weer het vir ons wonderlike sneeu gebring wat ons damme se watervlak baie help, maar die belofte van lekker warm somerdae is hier! Ons gesamentlike damvlakke (ten tye van die skrywe) van al die damme in die Wes-Kaap is nou in totaal op 60,44% en vanaf 1 Oktober sal ons terugkeer na vlak 5 beperkings wat sal beteken mense mag 70 l water per persoon per dag gebruik.

As ons egter besef dat die grootste Kaapse dam, die Theewatereskloof dam, wat ook water gee vir Stellenbosch steeds slegs op 51% staan (ten tye van die skrywe), bly ons maar bekommerd. U moet tog maar steeds baie versigtig werk met water.

Ek kry baie navrae en klagtes oor haweloses in ons dorpe. Ons het dus onlangs ons eerste beraad oor haweloses gehou om insette van die gemeenskap te kry oor hoe om hierdie sensitiewe, maar ernstige probleem prakties aan te pak. Daar is egter nie 'n maklike oplossing nie en dit word veroorsaak deur verskeie faktore soos die ekonomie, verbrokkelde gesinne, sosiale probleme soos dwelmmisbruik en vele meer.

Omdat hulpbronne beperk is, moet daar strategies saam gewerk word met nie-regeringsorganisasies, Munisipale Wetstoepassing, kerke, besighede, die Universiteit van Stellenbosch, die toerismebedryf sowel as privaat inwoners.

Dear Residents,

The Boland winter has brought us some wonderful snow that is helping our dam levels a lot, but the promises of wonderfully warm summer days are here! Our combined dam levels (at the time of writing) of all the dams in the Western Cape stands on 60,44% and from 1 October we will go back to Level 5 water restrictions. This means that you may use 70 litres per person per day.

We have to realise however that one of the largest dams in the Cape region, the Theewaterskloof Dam, that also provides water to Stellenbosch, is still at only 51% (at the time of writing) and it remains a concern. Please continue to use water sparingly.

I get a lot of questions and complaints about the homeless people in our towns. We therefore hosted our first homeless people summit to gather inputs from our community about how to address this serious but sensitive issue. There are no easy quick-fix solutions to this challenge. It is caused by various factors like the economy, broken families, social problems like drug abuse and much more.

Because resources are limited, we have to strategically work with non-governmental organisations, Municipal Law Enforcement, churches, businesses, the University of Stellenbosch, the tourism sector as well as private residents.
The purpose of this initiative was to find

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SPAAR WATER
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Erfenis/ Heritage
bl/pg 2

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SAFETY INITIATIVE

Die doel van hierdie inisiatief was om met praktiese oplossings vorendag te kom wat tot voordeel sal strek van al ons inwoners. Ons moet onthou dat hawelose inwoners weerloos is en die ideaal is om hul te herenig met hul families sodat hulle ŉ positiewe bydrae tot die gemeenskap kan maak. Daarvoor het ons egter almal se insette, perspektiewe en idees nodig.

Ons grootste uitdaging is om inwoners en besoekers te oortuig om asseblief nie vir straatmense direk geld of direkte skenkings te gee nie. Ek weet dat almal wat iets gee dit baie goed bedoel en hoop om te help, maar deur veral geld direk vir hawelose mense te gee, maak u dit lonend vir hulle om op straat te bly. U sal verbaas wees oor die goeie inkomste wat sommige so verdien en sommige kom selfs elke dag van ŉ ander dorp of stad met openbare vervoer om geld te kollekteer. Daar is egter ook sommige haweloses wat regtig ons hulp nodig het. U kan hulle ten beste ondersteun deur asseblief eerder skenkings te maak aan die wonderlike organisasies wat hawelose mense probeer help en ŉ pad met hulle stap. Organisasies wat in Stellenbosch werksaam is sluit in: Straatlig (021 883 3458), Stellenbosch Nagskuiling (021 886 6173) en Youth Outreach (021 886 6216).

U kan steeds u insette oor moontlike praktiese oplossings instuur, want ons gaan by einde Oktober ons finale beleid hieroor aan die Raad voorlê vir goedkeuring. Ons oorweeg ook tans ŉ koeponstelsel waar mense eerder koepons oral in die dorp kan koop om aan haweloses te gee. Dit sal hul dan bemagtig om kos en slaapplek van die erkende organisasies te verkry. Ander voorstelle is ook welkom.

Ons gemeenskap was onlangs in rou gedompel toe twee baie jong seuns van Cloetesville, Merlin Armoed en Owen Witbooi, tragies oorlede is. Die kinders het met ŉ skaatsplank gery en toe onder ŉ motor beland. Hierdie tragedie het ons almal geskud en het weereens beklemtoon hoe belangrik veilige spasies is waar ons kinders kan speel. Ek wil graag die nagedagtenis van hierdie twee seuns eer deur die bou van ŉ skaatsplankpark in Cloetesville. Daar is reeds begroot vir die park en die projek sal binnekort op tender uitgaan. Ons kinders verdien die vryheid van veilige speelplekke.

September was Erfenismaand en 24 September was ook Erfenisdag. Ek het weereens die wonderlike voorreg gehad om e'Bosch Erfenis se loodsprogram by te woon. Dit is altyd ŉ geleentheid wat my na aan die hart lê omdat dit in 2016 na my intrede as Burgemeester, my eerste formele funksie as Burgemeester was. Die e'Bosch projekte doen wonderlike werk, regoor ons munisipaliteit. Hulle fokus is om gemeenskaplike respek vir erfenis te kweek en so mense met verskillende erfenis en agtergronde nader aan mekaar te bring. Die Munisipaliteit, Universiteit en baie privaat rolspelers vorm almal deel van die projekte wat dwarsoor die Munisipaliteit geskied. Jaarliks hou e'Bosch vir die volle

practical solutions that will benefit all our residents. We must remember that homeless residents are vulnerable and the ideal is to reunite them with their families so that they can make a positive contribution to our community. To do this however, we need everyone's inputs, perspectives and ideas.

Our greatest challenge is to convince residents and visitors to not give money or donations directly to homeless people. I know everyone who gives something is hoping to do some good and help someone else, but by giving money to homeless people, you are making it profitable for them to remain on the street. You will be surprised about the income some earn this way. Some people even come from other towns and from the city with public transport every day to beg for money. There are however homeless people who really need our help. The best way to support them is to make a donation to one of the wonderful organisations in our area that is truly making an effort to help the homeless and want to build a relationship with them. Organisations active in the Stellenbosch region includes Straatlig (021 883 3458), Stellenbosch Night Shelter (021 886 6173) and Youth Outreach (021 886 6216).

You can still submit your inputs about practical solutions because we will be submitting our policy on this to Council for final approval by the end of October. We are currently considering a coupon system where people will be able to purchase coupons at strategic locations around town to be given to homeless people. This will then enable them to get food and a safe place to sleep at recognised organisations. Any other suggestions are also more than welcome.

Our community was recently shocked and saddened by the tragic passing of two young boys from Cloetesville, Merlin Armoed and Owen Witbooi. The children were riding on a skateboard in the street when they collided with a car. This tragedy shook all of us and once again highlighted the importance of safe recreational spaces where our children can play. In memory of these two boys, I want to build a skateboard park in Cloetesville. It has already been budgeted for and the project will go out on tender soon. Our children deserve the freedom of safe spaces to play in.

September was Heritage Month and on 24 September we celebrated Heritage Day. I once again had the wonderful privilege to attend the e'Bosch Heritage launch function. This is an occasion close to my heart because it was my first event as Mayor following my inauguration. The e'Bosch projects do wonderful work across our municipality. Their focus is to create mutual respect for heritage and in that way bring people, from different backgrounds, together. The Municipality, University and private stakeholders all form part of this project that takes place across the municipality. Annually, e'Bosch hosts a Heritage Festival throughout September which includes choirs, museum tours and other

September 'n Erfenisfees wat koorsang, museumtoere en ander kultuur geleenthede regoor die breër Stellenbosch insluit. Hulle vereer ook inwoners van ons gemeenskappe wat in hul daaglikse lewens 'n bydra maak tot die positiewe uitbou van ons almal se gedeelde erfenis.

Dit was wonderlik om vanjaar se wenners van die Erfenistoekennings te ontmoet. Matthew Cyster, Marietjie Kritzinger, Dr Peter Martens, Moses Muller, Dennis Moss, Antoinette Parks, Pietman Retief en Leatitia Solomons-Manuel is vereer. Elkeen van hulle het wonderlike bydraes gelewer tot die bewaring, uitbreiding en voortbou van erfenis in die breë Stellenbosch. Ons is werklik bevoorreg om hierdie mense as deel van ons gemeenskap te hê. Dankie ook aan elkeen in ons gemeenskap wat op sy of haar manier 'n bydrae lewer om ons erfenis te deel en te bewaar.

Gedurende September het ek die voorreg gehad om twee biblioteke te open! Die Groendal Biblioteek wat ons nou amptelik geopen het in Franschhoek en die nuwe rekenaarsentrum en biblioteek by St Vincent Rooms Katolieke Primêre Skool, in Koelenhof, is nou ten volle funksioneel. Die laasgenoemde biblioteek en rekenaarsentrum is moontlik gemaak deur samewerking vanuit die privaatgemeenskap, die Provinsiale Departement van Onderwys en ook die Munisipaliteit. Dit is 'n wonderlike fasiliteit vir ons leerders van hierdie klein semi-plattelandse skool asook die omliggende gemeenskap. Suster Lucie, die skoolhoof, en die onderwysers doen besondere werk en skep toekomsgeleenthede vir kinders wat nie sulke voorregte by hul huise het nie. Hulle fokus ook om 'n pragtige groen omgewing vir die kinders te skep deur bome te plan en tuin te maak. Die skool is dan ook een van die 65 skole in die Nasionale Eduplant-kompetisie! Ons wens die leerders en die skool alles van die beste toe!

Ek doen steeds weekliks buite besoeke oraloor die Munisipaliteit waar ek gaan kyk na munisipale projekte, inspeksie doen by munisipale eiendomme en ook lekker gesels met die inwoners wat ek raakloop. As daar gebiede of projekte is wat u wil hê ek moet besoek, laat weet asseblief.

Ek het dan ook onlangs van ons historiese geboue besoek en moet sê baie is nie optimaal versorg en opgepas nie. Die bewaring van ons historiese geboue is vir my uiters belangrik omdat dit deel is van al ons dorpe se karakter en ook 'n groot trekpleister is vir toeriste. Ons ondersoek tans volhoubare maniere om al die historiese eiendomme in munisipale besit te bewaar en ook optimaal te benut. Ons kyk onder andere na moontlike langtermyn verhuring en enige ander opsie wat sal verseker dat ons bates goed bestuur en gebruik word. Dit is egter nie 'n besluit wat ons sonder u insette sal neem nie. Hou asseblief die koerante en ons webwerf dop vir die geleenthede om ook u insette hieroor te lewer.

Met die einde van die jaar voor die deur, begin ons Matrieks

cultural activities across the broader municipal area. They also honour citizens from our community that make a positive contribution and promote our shared heritage in their daily lives.

It was wonderful to meet the winners of the Heritage awards. Matthew Cyster, Marietjie Kritzinger, Dr Peter Martens, Moses Muller, Dennis Moss, Antoinette Parks, Pietman Retief and Leatitia Solomons-Manuel were honoured this year. Each one of them made wonderful contributions to the conservation, expanding and broadening of heritage in Stellenbosch. We are truly privileged to have these people as part of our community. Thank you to each and every one in our community who, in their own way, contributes to preserving and promoting our heritage.

During September, I had the privilege to open two libraries! We have now officially opened the Groendal Library in Franschhoek and the new computer lab and library at St Vincent's Roman Catholic Primary School, in Koelenhof, is now fully functional. The last mentioned library and computer centre was made possible with the cooperation of the private sector, the Provincial Department of Education as well as the Municipality. It is a wonderful facility for the learners of this semi-rural school as well as the surrounding community. Sister Lucie, the principle, and the teachers do exceptional work and create opportunities for the future of the children that do not have privileges at home. They also focus on creating a beautiful green environment for the children by planting trees and planting a garden. This school is also one of the 65 schools taking part in the National Eduplant competition! We wish the learners and the school all the best for the competition!

I still continue with my weekly outside visits across the Municipality where I go and inspect municipal projects, properties and where I enjoy talking with the residents I meet along the way. If there are areas or projects you would like me to inspect, please let me know.

I recently visited some of our historical buildings and I must say it has not been optimally cared for or looked after. The preservation of our historical buildings is extremely important to me because it is part of the character of our towns and of great interest to tourists. We are currently looking into sustainable ways in which to conserve all the historical buildings the municipality owns and how to optimally put them to good use. We are looking, amongst others, at long term leasing and any other options that will ensure that our assets are well managed and utilised. This is, however, not a decision that we will make without your inputs. Please check the papers and our website for information about opportunities for public comment.

With the end of the year on our doorstep, our Matrics and

en studente eersdaags met hul finale eksamens. Ek wil ons leerders en studente sterkte toewens. Dit is altyd 'n stresvolle tyd, maar hierdie kort tydjie se harde werk kan 'n groot rol speel in jul toekoms. Ek weet dat dit ook 'n tyd is waar baie leerders en studente oorweldig voel deur stres en druk. Moet asseblief nie bang wees om vir hulp te vra nie. Sterkte ook aan die ouers van ons leerders en studente. Ek weet dat eksamens 'n absolute spanpoging is. Sterkte ook aan die onderwysers en opvoeders, u doen 'n onbaatsugtige en wonderlike werk.

In Oktober begin ons reeds hier en daar praatjies hoor oor Kersfees en vakansie. Gaan ondersteun gerus die plaaslike markte en so ook ons plaaslike ekonomie.

En moet tog nie vergeet om die weelde van ons mooi natuurskoon te geniet nie. Wat 'n gratis gawe van Bo. Stellenbosch, en ek bedoel elke dorp in ons Munisipaliteit is vir seker van die mooistes in die land. Mag ons nooit hierdie mooi as vanselfsprekend aanvaar nie.

Beste Wense
Burgemeester Gesie

students are starting their final exams soon. I want to give my best wishes to all our learners and students. This is always a very stressful time, but this short time of hard work can play a big role in your future. I know this is a time where learners and students feel overwhelmed with stress and pressure. Please do not be afraid to ask for help. Best wishes to the parents of our learners and students as well. I know that exams are an absolute team effort. Good luck to our teachers and educators as well, you do wonderful and selfless work.

In October we already start talking about Christmas and holidays. Please support our local Christmas markets and in so doing our local economy.

And do not forget to enjoy our beautiful natural environment. What a wonderful free gift from Above. Stellenbosch, and I mean every town within our municipality, is probably the most beautiful in the country. May we never take this for granted.

Best Wishes
Mayor Gesie