



BLOUBERG REHABILITATES ALLDAYS LAND FILL SITE

The Blouberg Local Municipality on the 10th of November 2016 launched the rehabilitation project for the Alldays Landfill Site in Alldays town; ward 18. The project will integrate the old station which was donated to the municipality by Basil Read a company contracted to De Beers Venetia Mine. The project will ideally alleviate poverty and create much needed jobs to the locals as well as providing a very essential service to the community.

In his interaction with the community, the Acting Mayor on the day Cllr Mashalane MS indicated that the municipality is responding to the needs of the community as per the

consultations .during Integrated development plan (IDP) public consultations held early this year. Cllr Mashalane indicated that the council, upon receipt of a grant for waste and environmental management unanimously took a decision to carry out a project to rehabilitate the Alldays Land Fill site. On the scope the project will carry out among other duties; the rehabilitation of cells, construction of office block, guard house, erecting a perimeter fencing and the installation of electrical and water connection.

Residents expressed their happiness saying the project will help better their lives.

Other dignitaries who attended the ceremony were Blouberg Local Municipality Speaker Mme Maria Thamaga, accompanied by members of the Executive Committee Cllr Morapedi M.A (Chairperson Corporate Services), Cllr. Makobela SR (Chairperson Budget and Treasury), Cllr Ntlatla MW (Chairperson Economic Development and Planning), Cllr Maila MP (EXCO Member without Portfolio) as well as the host Ward 18 Cllr Modingwana MG Meanwhile eleven

settlements currently benefit from the municipal waste removal services. Such include, amongst others, Senwabarwana, Alldays, Witten, Indermark and Dilaeneng. The Community Services

Department came up with innovative methods to provide waste storage facilities in Alldays and Senwabarwana towns without impacting on the discus of the municipality. With the 2016/2017 Revised IDP and Budget the municipality expanded the waste removal service to other needy settlements. The municipality in this financial year has consolidated

operation while expanding to new areas such as Puraspan, Harrietswhich, Tolwe and Eldorado. Industrial and household bins have been distributed to a sizable number of areas and households respectively.





HIV TEST DRIVE AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TAKEN TO FARMS

Blouberg Local Municipality in partnership with the Department of Health (Gideon Clinic) hosted HIV Test Drive and Awareness Campaign to farm workers at Wilnick Boerdery Farm near Tolwe. The awareness campaign was under the theme: “Be Wise and Get Tested and know your status”. The Local Aids Council adopted the Municipal Multi

Sectoral 2016/2017 HAST Operational plan guided by the 2012-2016

Limpopo Provincial Strategic Plan during their meeting held on the 04 October 2016. As part of the implementation plan there is a need to identify the Key populations Area or High transmission area to conduct the HAST awareness campaign. Farm workers are identified as key

population and are at higher risk for the HIV infections. Farm workers are particularly vulnerable to lack of information, sexual violence, discrimination and other violations of their human rights which in turn increases their vulnerability to HIV infections and undermines their ability to access the available HIV related services. Failure to address the risk of violence and improve their access to key HIV and violence related services will increase in the number people who are HIV

positive. “There is a need to remind the public and government that HIV/AIDS has not gone away and there is still a need to raise funds, increase awareness and fight stigma towards people who live with HIV,” said Selokela Bohashu during the HIV/AIDS drive. She emphasized a need for one to at least perform HIV Test twice a year for one to leave a healthy life. She continued to indicate that every year we have AIDS day which can be used to unite people to fight the stigma of HIV and also to show support to those living with the virus. “This should also be in commemoration of those who died of AIDS”. Bohashu says it is the responsibility of the Department of Health and Municipalities to work

hand in hand in ensuring that young people are being educated on issues relating to HIV. Young people should be urged to abstain and practice safe sex at all times. She explained that the youth should be reminded that HIV/AIDS can affect anyone and it is a life threatening illness which can turn the world upside-down. “Despite the progress made by working together with our municipalities what worries us a lot is that many young people still get infected with HIV/ AIDS every day and that should not be undermined,” “It feels painful that several numbers of youths still get infected in every hour regardless of awareness campaigns. We all need to be part of the movement to fight the HIV epidemic and the first step is getting tested and knowing your status,” she says. Bohashu further urged the farm workers to condomise all the time and continue visiting their nearest hospitals and clinics during their spare times because by not doing so can put the wives lives in danger. Akila Senwamadi, Willnick EN Seuns Boerdery farmer, says however some have lacked experience on sexual intercourses, he believes that all the efforts put by the Department of Health towards their lives will play a crucial role towards their lives .





BLOUBERG IS HOME TO POTATO FARMING

A new Potato Production Hub has been opened in Blouberg, thanks to the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. The Production Hub was officially opened by the MEC Mme Mokaba Phukwane during World Food Day commemoration held at Marobjane village. Managed by Mr Solly Ratjomane the plant is a state of the art hub which incorporate specialised units that makes potato production very easy. The 2016 World Food Day was celebrated under theme “Climate is changing, so is Agriculture”. According to the Department of Agriculture the primary agricultural sector contributes about 3% to the country’s gross domestic product (GDP) and it represents about 7% of formal employment. If the entire value chain of agriculture is taken into account, its contribution to GDP reaches about 12%.The Mayor of Blouberg Municipality, Cllr Maseka Pheedi has commended Mr Solly Ratjomane for his commitment to actively alleviate poverty in Blouberg through his farming career spanning for more than 30 years. Mayor Pheedi further encouraged the community at large to engage in various agricultural activities. He indicated that Ratjomane's potato production hub is not only benefiting the community within Blouberg Municipality but the larger community throughout South Africa. Ratjomane’s products are being exported to other countries countries.

MEC Mme Mapula Mokaba Phukwana called on members of the public to forward proposals, suggestions or questions pertaining agriculture to her department. Mokaba-Phukwana indicated that her department will continue to support initiatives that promotes agriculture and food security. Small scaled farmers and cooperatives raised their challenges ranging from lack of water machinery and this request support with production inputs. Members of the public mainly small scale farmers from all corners of the province came in numbers to celebrate the day and grab the much needed information from the department. Community members who are not participating in any form of agricultural activities were urged to establish small gardens at their homes to produce vegetables. The MEC and the Mayor concluded the event handing over food parcels to child headed families around Marobjane.

