



Blouberg News

"Fetiša Molaetsa"

April - June 2012



**Mr. T.M.P. Kgoale:
Our new Municipal
Manager**

EDITORIAL TEAM

Clr. Serite Sekgoloane (Mayor), Mr. Thoka Kgoale (Municipal Manager), Mr. Fannie Mothibi (Director : Corporate Services), Ms. Nonhlanhla Mashele (Manager : Communications)

For an advertising space or contribution of news items in the widely read **Blouberg News** please
Contact: Ms Mashele
015 5057 100 or 079 055 9588

VERY IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- Helen Franz Hospital: 015 5050 750
- Ratshaatshaa Health Centre: 015 592 0044
- Blouberg Health Centre: 015 501 0505
- Ambulance: 015 5050 750 / 10177
- Police: 015 5050 151/0800 10111
- Traffic: 015 5050 575/10177
- Disaster: 015 5057 511/015 293 9777
- Blouberg Municipality: 015 5057 100
- Capricorn District Municipality: 015 294 1000
- Presidential Hotline: 17737
- Fraud & Corruption Reporting: 0800 205 053
- Premier Hotline: 0800 864 729

THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Tribute to our fallen heroes and heroine

We have had a tearful and fearful start to the year. In under three months we lost three key members of our army in the fight to build better communities. When a member of our Council, Councillor T.J. Nare, met his fate on the 10th February 2012 following his involvement in a car accident, we disguised our devastation by celebrating his colourful life. We drowned ourselves in speeches and songs about his illustrious political and community development career. We found solace in the knowledge that he had not died in vain. He had left so many lessons that our current and future councilors can only benefit from. We remained defiant against the pain that lurked about and pounced on each silent moment, because we knew time would heal us. We remained courageous in the knowledge that "lightning does not strike in the same place twice."



Councillor Serite Sekgoloane - Mayor.

It was not to be, as more vagaries lined our way. Hardly had we buried councilor Nare when death robbed us of yet another treasure, a member of our local royal combatants, Kgoshi T.P. Seakamela. Kgoshi Seakamela departed on the 29th February 2012. His slight indisposition had never been life threatening, or so we thought. Kgoshi Seakamela had always walked the talk with us. He had been everywhere with us. He had shared every thought with us. We have had a long and solid working relationship with our royal leadership, and it was all because of the visionary leaders like Kgoshi Seakamela. His unforeseen departure has left us disconsolately wary of the future. When our valued Ward 18 Committee member, Ms Tshotlo Manabalala, suffered the same fate as Councillor Nare we could only say 'but why?.' Ms

Manabalala was one of the longest serving Ward Committee members having been around since 2006. She had selflessly volunteered her services for the betterment of the lives of her people, conscious of the thorns the road she dared was paved with. In her memory we should make the ward committees' work a decent, respected and appreciated service.

Like the **Captain in Captain! My Captain**, a poem penned by Walt Whitman (1819 -1892), when we finally celebrate our economic freedom, their flags will be hoisted high for their heroism is immortal. They were there during the toughest of battles that have brought us political freedom

O Captain my Captain! Our fearful trip

*is done,
The ship has weather'd every rack, the
prize we sought' is won,
The port is near, the bells I hear, the
people exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keels, the
vessel grim and daring;
But O heart! heart! heart!
O the bleeding drops of red,
Where on the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead
O Captain! my Captain! rise up and
hear the bells;
Rise up – for the flag is flung – for you
the bugle trills,
For you they call, the swaying mass,
their eager faces turning.....*

In their honour and memory we will spare no efforts to achieve what they lived for. Their names have a place on our Hall of Fame. May their souls rest in peace!

NOTICE OF APPROVED ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2011

Notice is hereby given that the Council of Blouberg Local Municipality has considered and adopted the Annual Report and the Oversight Report 2010/2011 in terms of the Municipal Finance Management Act 129(1) at a Council meeting of 29 March 2012 held at Letswatla village, Naughty Boys Sports Grounds.

Copies of the adopted Annual Report are available for public perusal at the following offices: Senwabarwana Head office, Alldays Satellite office, Eldorado Satellite office, Tolwe Satellite office, Bahananwa Traditional office, Kibi Traditional office, Mamadi Traditional office, Seakamela Traditional office and Makgato Traditional office.

For those who are unable to visit the above offices please visit the municipal website at www.blouberg.gov.za. For more information, enquiries should be directed to the office of the Municipal Manager for the attention of Mr. Masama Jacob@ 015 505 7100, Fax. 015 505 0296 or email masamaj@blouberg.gov.za.

KGOALE T.M.P.
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

BLOUBERG INVESTS IN EDUCATION

“The doors of learning ... shall be opened.... These are the freedoms we will fight for, side by side, throughout our lives until we have our liberty.” This is in part what is contained in the Freedom Charter, a Charter that was adopted on the 26th June 1955 at Kliptown by the visionary people of South Africa. Government has indeed opened the doors of learning, though there will always be room to criticize that the doors are not opened wide enough. Education is Government's priority number one. Blouberg Municipality has joined ranks in a bid to empower youth and alleviate poverty in the communities through education. The Municipality has recently awarded bursaries to 500 needy learners to further their studies at tertiary level. These academically deserving students were over the moon when Blouberg Mayor, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane, awarded them bursaries worth R150 000. The students have been registered for Diploma and Certificate qualifications at the Senwabarwana's Campus of the Capricorn College for Further Education and Training. The handing over ceremony was held on the 22nd February 2012 at the Senwabarwana Campus Hall. The College's Chief Executive Officer, Mr K.R. Madzhie, said they are delighted by the move taken by the Municipality. Madzhie said the construction of the new building is currently underway at Senwabarwana



The Mayor and the college management (far right) pose with happy recipients of Mayor's Special Bursaries.

Campus to accommodate many more students. The state of the art three storey building boasts 12 lecture rooms and offices amongst others. Madzhie also made a call to students who have matriculated and lack funds to apply for free bursaries available at the College.

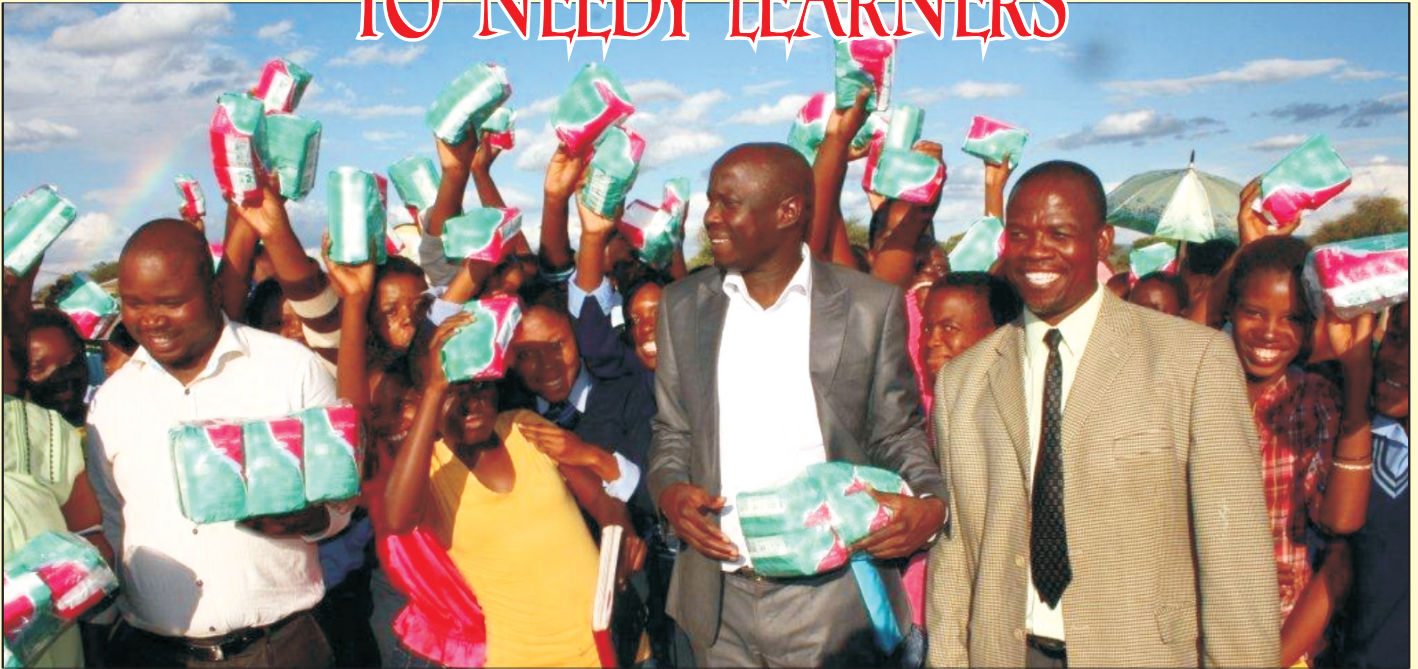
Upon delivering a message of encouragement the Mayor of Blouberg Municipality, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane, who is passionate about matters of development and education, encouraged learners to focus on their education and have their eyes glued on their dreams at all times. Cllr Sekgoloane said the fact that the Municipality was able to help 500 learners realize their dreams make him

proud. “We are looking forward to seeing you ploughing back into your respective communities,” he said.

The fortunate learners are already studying towards national diplomas and certificates in different fields such as Marketing Management; Business Management; Financial Management and Hospitality; amongst others.

Blouberg Municipality has six other learners enrolled for degrees in Medicine; Urban and Regional Planning; Pharmacy and Civil Engineering at various tertiary institutions through the Mayor's Bursary fund, with many more having completed their studies and now working.

MAYOR HANDS OVER SANITARY TOWELS TO NEEDY LEARNERS



The Mayor, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane (grey suit) is flanked by ecstatic learners and the local ward councillor, Cllr Mapitsi Mashalane (black tie) and the Chief Whip, Cllr Billy Tshoshi (white shirt).

“We are failing in our parental duties to discipline our kids. We are shy to discuss sexuality issues with our kids. All these result in ill discipline in schools and high failure rate; teenage pregnancies; juvenile delinquencies; and untold high mortality rate among teenagers due to sexually transmitted diseases, especially HIV/Aids,” the Mayor of Blouberg Municipality, Councillor Serite Sekgoloane, told the multitudes of parents and learners who attended the Municipality's outreach programme on 29 March 2012 at Letswatla Village. His theme was influenced by the poor performance of schools in that area of the Municipality for the 2011 Grade 12 examinations. The local circuit, Maleboho West, recorded 31% with only three of the thirteen schools recording decent performs. He harangued parents for creating little monsters by failing to restraint their kids at home and leaving every thing to educators. He invited them to attend meetings convened by school governing bodies and to demand accountability for the dysfunctionality of their schools as such schools had become “factories that were busy producing future social misfits.” “We are in a process of establishing Blouberg Education Forum that will encompass all education circuits

within the municipality; academics; school governing bodies and other important stakeholders in a bid to improve grade 12 and other results in Blouberg,” the Mayor said before affording the locals an opportunity to raise what they thought could help improve the education situation in the area.

One learner from Mphela Secondary School requested the Mayor to assist their school with a science laboratory to enable them to do practicals for physical science; to purchase computer for the school and to build them an administration block and additional classrooms at the school. The Mayor promised to escalate the request to the relevant Department of Education but lashed out at the community for having allowed criminals to effortlessly deprive the school of computers that were previously handed over to the school by Government. It happened this way : On the 7th October 2005 a Presidential Imbizo, led by the then Minister of Labour, Minister Shepperd Mdladlana, was held at Thebere. During that imbizo one educator from Mphela requested Government to assist the school with computers. There and then the Minister promised the school

computers. On the 26th November 2005, hardly two months later, the Minister returned to deliver six computers as promised. This time he was flanked by the then MEC for Education, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, who for his part donated 30 chairs and tables to the School. Blouberg Municipality donated two steel cabinets to the school for the safe keeping of the computers.

The Mayor went on to punch deep holes into the sexuality taboos and myths by handing over sanitary towels to girl learners from the local secondary school. This he said was in keeping with Government's obligation to look after the human dignity of even those who remain trapped in the most unfavourable socio economic conditions, and distigmatising sexuality issues.

Blouberg Municipality has invested immensely on the welfare and interests of the special focus groups, viz youth; women; children and people living with disabilities. It has employed two Officers to specifically cater for this group. For any enquiries and information on the special focus plans and programmes contact Ms Metse Ramahuma or Mr Makwena Mathiane at 015 505 7184.

THE SPEAKER SPEAKS

Ten years down the line we remain trendsetters on matters of enhancing participatory democracy. We were the first to establish functional ward committees. If not the first, we were among the first to put up a budget for ward committees support. We are the proud copy right owners of the concept of the ward committees conference, which has become an annual event for most of the municipalities in and outside our District and Province. We are the authors of Council/EXCO Outreaches wherein all our quarterly Council and Monthly Executive Committee meetings are held in communities, thus affording communities the opportunity to directly interview and raise issues with their top most governance structures. Not only have we excelled in conceptualization of these and other mechanisms to shoot up participatory democracy, we have perfected them through monitored implementation over the years. Our ward committees have been honouring their scheduled bi-monthly meetings without fail since inception. They are not meeting for the sake of it, but meet over structured agenda to assess and further strategise on implementing their approved annual programmes, which include educating and mobilizing members of the public around the Municipality's programmes. One needs only to pitch up at any of our many outreach programmes to witness the numbers that attend and the quality of inputs our people make on these participatory platforms. This is but one side of the functionality of our ward committees.

At the beginning we struggled to put up a budget of less than R100,000 to fund our public participation programmes. Today the budget is in the region of R4m and stands to grow further in the immediate future, because everybody understands that participatory democracy is not an afterthought. The budget includes support for public participation (R171,000); Support for Ward Committees (R800,000); Out of Pocket Expenses for Ward Committees (R2,583,000); Mayor's Campaigns (R42,400); Mayor's special public participation programmes (R106,000) and R265,000 to bring into the main stream people classified as special

focus groups, being people with disabilities; youth; the elderly; women and children. In December 2011 these groups took very progressive resolutions that indeed bring them onto the centre stage of participation in the affairs of their Municipality. We believe most of their resolutions will find express funding in the 2012/13 budget and beyond.

This year we celebrate the tenth anniversary of our Ward Committees Conference/Forum. It all started in 2002 at the Senwabarwana Campus of the Capricorn FET College and we haven't skipped a single year. From the normal three days, this year will see us adding the fourth day to accommodate the celebration part of it without compromising the work the conference is mandated to execute. We are looking forward to honest reflections and informed resolutions that will take us into the next decade.

Our Council/EXCO outreaches have over the years grown immensely in stature and quality. For the uninitiated, all our quarterly Council and monthly Executive Committee meetings are held in the open across the municipal area and each is followed with a public participation programme wherein members of the public raise and get their concerns addressed on the spot. We have been at almost every village and are not aware of any community that can claim to have been neglected. It should be remembered that these do not replace the normal quarterly meetings that each ward councilor is enjoined to hold with his or her constituency. During the period in issue we had fruitful public participation programmes at Ga-Ramaswikana (16/01/2012); Uitkyk (26/01/2012); Montz (01/03/2012); My-Darling (20/03/2012); and Letswatla (29/03/2012).

Lately we have two innovations to continue on the path towards building a Municipality that is efficient, effective, accountable and responsive. We have clinched a deal with MTN to provide all our ward committees with cellphones at a discounted cost. This is aimed at ensuring a speedy, cost effective and modern



Councillor Maria Thamaga - Speaker

communication with our vanguards for participatory democracy. We will link them to our systems to enhance access through SMSs; e-mails; internet and social media networks. As we continue to beef up our Communications Division our ward committees will soon be overfled with information.

On the 29th March 2012 our progressive Council established a section 79 Committee to ensure that non of the issues raised though our many participatory platforms fall through the cracks. The Committee, called Petitions and Public Participation Committee, will be chaired by yours truly, and is composed of the following other members: Clr Mashalane; Clr Sekwatlakwatla; Clr Modishetji; Clr Mosebedi; Clr Morukhu and Clr Tlouamma.

"If talking about what we did sounds more of boasting, lo and behold! We can move on and talk about what we can still do in the field of community participation and invite everybody to watch us do it," this is what my predecessor, Cllr Sammy Selamolela wrote in the June 2005 edition of Blouberg News. Seven years later we have indeed outdone ourselves and are looking forward to doing more in enhancing participatory democracy.



BLOUBERG RECEIVES THE MOST IMPROVED AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT EVER

Blouberg Local Municipality has received a qualified audit report for the financial year 2010/2011. The five qualifications that denied the Municipality a clean audit are briefly explained as follows :

- 1. Unauthorised Expenditure**
The Auditor General (AG) found that an amount of R18,707 165 were not cash backed, resulting in an unauthorised expenditure of R16,233,937.
- 2. Irregular Expenditure**
The AG found that there was no system in place for the identification and recognition of irregular expenditure and satisfactory alternative audit procedure to enable him to obtain reasonable assurance that all irregular expenditure was properly recorded.
- 3. Leave Provisions**
The AG found that the Municipality had incorrectly calculated the leave provision, using total compensation instead

of basic salary.

4.

Revenue : Property Rates

The AG found that management systems were not adequate for updating of the valuation roll and billing system, and that there were no satisfactory audit procedures that he could perform to obtain reasonable assurance that all property rates revenue was properly recorded.

5.

Revenue : Prepaid Electricity

The AG found that there was no system of controls for proper recognition of prepaid electricity revenue on which he could rely for the purpose of his audit, and that there were no satisfactory alternative audit procedures that he could perform to obtain reasonable assurance that all prepaid electricity revenue was properly recognized.

Meshate; and Senwabarwana Head Office.

Already the Municipality has developed and is implementing an action plan to address the qualifications and other matters raised by the Auditor General. The recently established Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC) has already approved its annual programme and will be closely monitoring achievement of the action plan targets. The Audit Committee, whose functionality during the year in issue was found wanting by the AG, is now fully functional and has also put its head on the block to ensure that the Municipality addresses all the issues raised by the AG. Over and above, the Management of the Municipality, under the new Municipal Manager, Mr TMP Kgoale, has committed to do the right things without fail. Already the position of a Risk Officer has been advertised as part of ensuring that the necessary controls are in place.

For the full Auditor General's Report visit us on www.blouberg.gov.za or get a copy of the annual report currently available at the following locations: Satellite Offices;

The following synopsis of the Municipality's performance in the last two financial years and within the district context, gives hope :

Municipality	2009/10	2010/11	Improved/Regressed
Capricorn District Municipality	Disclaimer	Qualified	Improved
Aganang	Disclaimer	Adverse	Regressed
Blouberg	Qualified	Qualified	Improvement (From 11 to 5 qualifications)
Molemole	Disclaimer	Disclaimer	No improvement
Polokwane	Qualified	Qualified	No improvement



AG's representative, Mr Nevhutu (left) shares his expert views with Mr Kgoale (Municipal Manager) and Cllr Sekgoloane (Mayor).



Members of the MPAC have been all out inspecting projects.

MEET BLOUBERG'S NEW MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Mr Thoka Makorwane Patric Kgoale is the new head of administration and accounting officer of Blouberg Local Municipality. Mr Kgoale took office from the 1st March 2012 and replaces Acting Municipal Manager, Mr Khazamula Elias Machovani. Born and bred in the local Burgerrecht Village, Mr Kgoale knows Blouberg inside out.

He obtained his Senior Certificate from Mabea Secondary school twenty years ago. He holds a Masters Degree in Development Studies from the University of Limpopo's Turfloop Campus; a Bachelor of Administration; A Bachelor of Administration (Hons); and a Diploma in Public Administration from the University of Venda. He has also completed a Chevning Fellowship awarded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom for Studies in Managing Migration at the Sussex Centre for Migration Research, University of Sussex.

Mr Kgoale has 14 years managerial experience and he grew through ranks from a junior supervisor to the first Director of Immigration Services at the biggest Airport in Africa, OR International Airport, being responsible for overall management. Before joining the Bloberg Municipality he had been deployed to National Headquarters of the Department of Home Affairs as the Director responsible for the overall coordination and strategic guidance to the Provinces on deportation services. He scooped several awards for best performance in the process.

His new office bears the immense responsibility of insuring that the Council's mandate is implemented and also oversee the day to day delivery of services to the public. Mr Kgoale highlighted good governance and development of our deprived areas as key focus areas. With his favourite quote : "The only real mistake is the one from which we learn nothing" by John Powell, Blouberg is in good hands to become a real learning organization.

"I am suffering from high performance and stardom syndrome and I am going to deliberately infect all of you," he told staff members during the welcome function attended by councilors and other dignitaries on the 29th February 2012.



Mr T.M.P. Kgoale: Municipal Manager.

"Residents have the right to demand that we spend their money wisely. It is up to each one of us to ensure that we keep our clients happy and satisfied at all times. Let us respect one another, our communities and the responsibilities we have been given," Mr Kgoale said as he appreciated the fanfare and warmth with which he was being welcomed.

Among Mr Kgoale's documented personal attributes are :

- Ability to work under enormous pressure;
- Good interpersonal skills and strong team leadership and a team player;
- A decision maker with above average management skills;

- Ability to use participatory approach in management;
- Distinct skills in change management; and
- Distinct skills in workshop facilitation utilizing objective project planning methods.

In his closing acceptance speech Mr Kgoale used the old adage "maoto a kgobe ke bana ba yona" reminding his staff members that they are called upon to serve the Municipality with care and diligence with the intention to better the living conditions of the local communities and that only they can attain such a toll order by working for each other and not against each other.

Welcome and Good Luck Mr Kgoale !



The lovely sites that characterised the day Mr Machovani left and Mr Kgoale landed.

WE ARE THE BEST ON CUSTOMER CARE

In the July – September 2010 edition we announced our arrival in the customer care service. We announced Council's approval of a Customer Care Policy on 01 June 2010 and the appointment of Ms Vinolia Makhura as Customer Care Officer. Fast forward to 2012, we have appointed a Customer Care

Clerk, Ms Kholo Lehong, to beef up our Customer Care Unit and are already leading the pack in the Capricorn District Municipality with regard to responding to customer queries raised through the Presidential Hotline and Premier's Hotline. In terms of the report released by the Premier's Office, by the end of

February 2012 we had resolved the Presidential Hotline issues at 95.24% and the Premier Hotline issues at 100%.

The beauty of it is that we are not only excelling in the number of cases resolved, but in the turn around time as the table below shows.

Municipality	No. of Unresolved Calls	No of Resolved Calls	Avg. Time to resolve (Govt. bus. Hours)	Total Calls	Percentage Resolved
Capricorn District Municipality	154	338	2147	492	68.70%
Polokwane Local Municipality	10	137	2373	147	93.20%
Lepelle – Nkumpi Local Municipality	40	65	2321	105	61.90%
Blouberg Local Municipality	3	60	1130	63	95.24%
Aganang Local Municipality	7	40	2257	47	85.11%
Molemone Local Municipality	13	17	1775	30	56.67%

BLOUBERG CELEBRATES WATER WEEK

Blouberg Municipality in conjunction with Capricorn District Municipality and the Department of Water Affairs Limpopo joined the rest of the country in celebrating the Water Week. This came after the Minister of Water Affairs, Ms Edna Molewa, called all South Africans to join the Department in celebrating National Water Week by making a positive contribution towards the effort to conserve and protect the country's water resources. The event was held on the 9th of March 2012 at Senwabarwana showground.

National Water week is an annual awareness campaign of the Department of Water Affairs which seeks to focus attention on water as a scarce and precious commodity in our country. Citizens are urged to take practical steps to conserve and protect the water

resources. This year's celebrations were held from 5-11 March 2012 throughout the country.

According to the Department the country's already scarce water resources is further threatened by high levels of pollution in dams and rivers, water wastage that occurs in our homes as a results of leaking taps and pipes and a lack of commitment to conserve water by industries and the Agricultural sector.

This year's National Water Week was celebrated under this theme: Water is Life; Respect it; Conserve it, enjoy it, which was aimed to, inter alia, raise awareness around the need to conserve and protect water resources; highlight the Department's plan and achievements as custodian of the country's water resources; ensure water is put firmly on the national agenda and

at all times.

The Mayor of Blouberg Municipality, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane, appealed to residents to take practical steps to conserve and preserve water resources and refrain from illegal connections as this compromises other residents and makes it difficult for the Municipality to provide water to every household.

Citizens are also encouraged to use at least one of the water saving tips the Department has introduced. These can be found on the Department's website www.dwa.gov.za.

BLOUBERG PURSUES DARKNESS IN EXTENSIONS

All villages in Blouberg Municipality have now been electrified, thanks to the Municipality's "Operation Leswiswi o Kotsing" launched in 2005 to give primacy to the provision of electricity, and proceed expeditiously to have all its villages electrified by 2010/ 2011. In terms of the Millennium Development Goals and the South African Local Government Turn Around strategy, all households must be connected to the national grid by 2014. However darkness has been tricky, taking refuge in extensions that sprung up in the majority of villages in recent times. The Municipality is now taking the fight back to where it started to put paid to the era of darkness.

The recalcitrant underdevelopment has already been taken to the cleaners in Witten Extension The Municipality forked out over R3 million to energize 405 households and businesses in the area, which was one of the first to be electrified by the Municipality in 2003. The official switch on took place on the 4th March 2012. The electrification launch was officiated by the Chairperson of Infrastructure Development, Cllr Seleka Ratladi. Cllr Ratladi urged residents to use electricity sparingly and refrain from

tempering with electricity boxes as they risked their electricity being disconnected and hefty fines being imposed. As a tradition the Municipality also handed over a stove; kettle and an iron to the poverty stricken family of Sehata where the symbolic switch-on took place.

There are currently mega electrification projects under construction in

Senwabarwana Extension 5 and Hananoa Village which should be completed during the current financial year. "Our major worry remains our inability to switch on Vienna Village whose project is more than two years old now, due to some differences with ESKOM, which we are resolving," the Mayor, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane, says with regard to electrification projects.



This is the Municipal Electrical Team under the guidance of Mr Jacob Maleka (right front).

Bochum Pumps and Electrical Supplies

Ockert Erasmus
Owner

Mobile: 083 456 3265 • Fax: 086 513 7642
E-mail: okkie@bochum.co.za • Web: www.bochum.co.za

Rheiland Filling Station Complex - Sasol Garage
Cnr. Mydarling and Indermark Road



MUNICIPALITY BIDS FAREWELL TO MR MACHOVANI AND WELCOMES MR KGOALE

He was humble; approachable; respectful; accessible; decisive; compliance oriented..... . This is how the Management; employees and councillors of Blouberg Local Municipality described Mr Machovani, the gentleman who was seconded by the Department of Cooperative Governance Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs in September 2009 to act as their Municipal Manager. Their love for Mr Machovani was best defined and demonstrated in speeches; songs and mementos that he was showered with on the day of his farewell, the 29th February 2012.

“Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while, leave foot prints in our hearts, and we are never ever the same” (Flavia Weedn). Against this quote the Director of Corporate Services, Mr Fannie Mothibi, on behalf of Management, fielded the benefits that Management and the Municipality have derived from Mr Machovani's two years leadership. Major among the rich legacies that Mr Machovani was leaving behind was that he had mapped the way forward and leapfrogged The Municipality towards getting a clean audit report. In his only one full financial year in charge the



Mr Makhovani (right) handing over the baton to Mr Kgoale (centre) with the Mayor cheering them on.

Municipality has recorded its best Auditor General's report ever, a qualified report with five qualifications compared to eleven the previous year. “E ka wena hosi Machovani hi ri u famba kahle. Hi khensa hi nkwaso leswi u nga swi endla eka Blouberg

Municipality. Hi ri tindlela a tikubhaseli u va na mikateko na laha u ya kona,” said Management.

On behalf of workers, the Secretary of

Continued on page 13



The Political Management Team (Mayor, Speaker and Chief Whip) and Senior Management (Directors) were all there to bid farewell to Mr Machovani (third from right) and welcome Mr Kgoale (third from left).

SHOPPING QUEUES CUT SHORTER

In the October – December 2010 edition of the Blouberg News we announced the arrival of a bigger and better shopping complex for Senwabarwana. The sod turning had been done and construction was expected in a matter of days. Unfortunately those few days were to become a year and some months. The project has finally taken off the ground with construction of the complex already at an advanced stage. The reason for the delays in commencing with construction was the bureaucracy involved in transferring the land from the Provincial Department of Public Works to Blouberg Municipality.

One needs only visit Senwabarwana during pay days to appreciate the buying power of the locals. The current complex and other businesses just cannot cope resulting in traffic congestions and long queues that force the majority of people to rather go and do their shopping in Polokwane, which is more than 90 kilometres away from Senwabarwana. Thanks to the partnership of McCormic Property Developers and the Selamolela



Mayor Sekgoloane (second from left) visiting the construction site. With him is the local Ward Councillor, Cllr Olivia Molokomme; Construction Site Manager, Mr Mpedi Selamolela and a member of the Executive Committee, Cllr William Moshuhla.

Group, most of the expensive shopping trips outside Senwabarwana and inconvenient local shopping experiences will definitely become a thing of the past. The R120m complex is expected to house at least 39 business outlets, including popular brands such as Shoprite-Checkers.

"We are indebted to the McCormic

Property Development for their massive investment in our area in keeping with Government's vision towards rural development. Our calculations indicate that this complex will still not be enough for our fast growing townships around Senwabarwana," said the Mayor, Clr Serite Sekgoloane, as he welcomed McCormic Property Developers and Selamolela Group JV back on site.



Construction of the shopping complex is expected to be completed by end of August 2012.

MEYARA SEKGOLANE O BULA DIPAPADI TŠA MABELO SEMMUŠO



On the way to the Olympics and all the way from Blouberg, thanks to the Municipality's vision in building the Eldorado Sports Complex.

Letšatši la di 10 Febereware 2012 e bile letšatši le legolo mo go bana le barutiši ka moka ba didikothuto ka moka tša Masepala wa Blouberg. Go be go bonagala lethabo le polelo ya mafolofolo ya moya wa phadišano tša mabelo tša bana. Nako ye ya mathomo a ngwaga ke yona nako ye botse ya gore bana ba laetše bokgoni bja bona go diphadišano tša mabelo, le go dira segwera le bana ba dikolo tše dingwe.

Barutiši le bona ba hwetša sebaka sa go phadišano ka go ba bahlahlhi ba hlwahlwa ba bana, moreromogolo e le go tšweletša ditalente tša bana mo dipapading.

Lenaneo la letšatši le thomile ka lebelo la dimithara tše dikete tharo makgolo hlano (3,500), moo bana ba dukulogago le lepatlelo ga seswai pele ga ge ba ka thopa sefoka. Go be go kwagala mogobo fela ge bana; batswadi le barutisi ba hlohloletša baphekgišani go tia maatlā.

Lethabo la barutiši le bana le be le tloga le kgahla mofeti ka tsela, ka ge le be le laetša tšhomišano; kwešišano; kgomagano le lerato magareng ga bana le barutiši.

Maikutlo a ile godimo ge mohlomphegi Meyara Serite Sekgoloane a bula modiro wo semmušo ka iri ya bobedi mathapama. Polelong ya gagwe o ile a laetša gore mmušo o ikemišeditše e bile o beile

tšhelete ya go thuša meralokong le dithutong tša bana. O laeditše gore meraloko e thuša go lapološa le go loutša megopolo ya bana. O laeditše gape gore lepatlelo la Eldorado, ba ikemišeditše go le tlabakela ka di tlabakelo tša mabelo. A laetša gore bana ba rena ba swanetše go ba le ditlabakelo ka moka gore batle ba kgone go phadišano le bana ba mafelo a mangwe bjalo ka ge Caster Semenya ; Punch Masenamela; Tefo Mashamaite le ba bangwe ba dirile. A laetša gore segwera sa Masepala wa Blouberg le Komiti ya Blouberg ya diphadišano tša bana ba dikolo

se swanetše go tšwela pele go ya goile.

Mekgolokwane, legoa le melodi di kwagetše ge mašhabašhaba a o a be go a le moo, a hlohloletša le go lebogiša bathopa difoka ba letšatši. Meyara Sekgoloane o ile a fana ka difoka tšeo di tšwago ga masepala tše bjalo ka : ditifikarata; dimetale le dibjana tša go thetha tšeo ba di rekilego go hlohloletša bana le dikolo go tšea karolo mo dipapading. Mmetšatholo e bile Sedikothuto sa Bochum Central seo se thopilego dibjana ka moka.



Mayor, Cllr Sekgoloane (second from right) presents winners with their hard won certificates, medals and trophies.

CDM HANDS OVER HONEY SUCKERS

In a bid to insure safe waste disposal Capricorn District municipality (CDM) has handed over honey suckers to Blouberg and Aganang Local Municipality respectively. The District forked out R1.5m for the two trucks to insure safe solid disposal. The trucks come as a direct support intervention to local municipalities which will be dispatched to households when their pit latrines are replete.

Honey sucker is a sewage suction truck mounted with sump pump used for sucking sewerage or waste water. It is a new type of environment sanitation applied vehicle that is versatile to handle sewerage.

During the handover ceremony, Executive Mayor Cllr Lawrence Mapoulo, emphasized that access to sanitation facilities is a basic human right that safeguards health and human dignity. "Every individual deserves to be protected from disease and other health hazards

posed by poor disposal of human waste." He said. He stated that children, who are among the most vulnerable to such hazards, deserve a quality sanitation delivery, better environment and the highest standard of living possible.

Septic tanks are the main waste water disposal systems for those living in rural or urban areas where no connection to a main sewer line exists. There is nothing particularly complex about how they work; yet they are extremely effective at what they do. They can accommodate large amounts of waste and can be properly maintained through regular cleaning. The cleansing process involves the use of trucks to remove the sludge that has piled up in the system. The Mayor of Blouberg Municipality, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane, thanked Capricorn District Municipality for the truck saying it will "restore the dignity of our people and help minimize related poor human waste disposal infections."



The Mayor, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane.

Mapoulo explained that the trucks have a sufficient capacity to serve many villages and communities. Community members should contact their local municipalities as and when their toilets are full.

Continued from page 10

SAMWU, Mr Kenny Moholo, fully concurred with Management's accolades and praised the personality and character of Mr Machovani, whom he said was leaving behind a stable organization with very few outstanding labour issues which were already in the process of being resolved. So did the Mayor, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane, on behalf of the Council who went on to marvel at the unity and support demonstrated by Mr Machovani's Management team during his stewardship, as well as his unparalleled ability to work with and support councillors.

Mr Thoka Kgoale, the new Municipal Manager, was "welcomed with the MFMA; the Municipal Systems Act; the Municipal Structures Act; the Constitution," said the Speaker of the Council, Cllr Maria Thamaga in her welcome address. All the structures followed with promises of unconditional support, to which the humbled Mr Kgoale replied with an undertaking to infuse his ethos of 'high performance and stardom' to the entire work force of over 181

employees and 41 councillors, who had been delivered to him by the Mayor, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane. Mr Kgoale made it clear that alone he would not make it and was looking forward to all the support from the Management; trade unions; councillors; civic organizations; magoshi; and every

other stakeholder who mattered.

When the day was done, everybody went home with hope and excitement that Blouberg Municipality had entered a new era.



Receiving mementos from the Mayor are recently retired municipal employees (in other words you wrote the man instead of Mayor and employee instead of employees).

SHATTERING THE THREAT TO AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

1 10 broken window panes! This is what Pokanong Primary School, in the Blouberg Bahananwa Circuit, faced when they returned from their December holidays. This was not the result of any human vandalism, but the actions of the critically endangered Ground Hornbill birds, which live in the area. Their breeding season occurs over the festive season and when they see their reflection in the windows, they presume it is another bird coming to take over their territory. They attack the glass and break it with their powerful beaks. This is not the first time Pokanong had to suffer this way and took precaution by painting the windows. Unfortunately, during the year some windows got broken accidentally by learners and when replaced, were not painted again. This has led to attracting the hornbills again. Pokanong, being an WESSA/WWF Eco-School, knew where to go for help, without taking matters into their own hands by harming our protected natural heritage. They contacted Judy van Schalkwyk, Eco-Schools Blouberg Node Coordinator, and asked for help. Mabula Ground Hornbill Project (MGHP) immediately responded to her pleas and acquired the generous sponsorship from PG Glass Polokwane and the Honorary Rangers of Limpopo to provide the school with new windows. This solved one problem, but what if the birds returned? With the help of another concerned corporate



Charles Mphamo, MGHP conservation officer, teaches the learners about Ground Hornbills.

branding company called Graffiti, a new product called Contra Vision was used on the windows. This sticker-layer is opaque and non-reflective from the outside, but allows learners to see out easily. This protects the glass from inquisitive hornbill eyes but allows the children light to learn. The nearby pre-school also received new windows. Mr Thomas Mphamo from MGHP gave a presentation on the ecology of the birds to over 400 learners. A DVD was shown to the learners, explaining the work that the MGHP are doing to conserve ground hornbills. The MGHP staff: Lucy Kemp (Project Manager), Charles Mphamo and Natasha Nienaber trained two community members, Thomas Mmakgosing and Isrom Matsha to apply the Contra Vision. Many of the learners also assisted with applying the stickers. For more information on the ground hornbill contact Lucy Kemp on 083 289 8610 or Judy van Schalkwyk on 072 455 2252.

BOSVELD GARAGE


We supply the following services to our clients

All your groceries needs, drinks,
ice, meat, biltong, filling station
and clean rest rooms.

ABSA ATM also available

KGOTHA KGOTHE !!!! (APR - JUN 2012)

Ka ntle le dikopano tša Council le Executive Committee dikopano tša makgotla ka moka di tla swarelwa dikantorong tša Masepala Senwabarwana ka mokgwa wo o latelago. Dikopano tša Council le Executive Committee di buletšwe maloko a setšhaba. Le mengwa go bagona.



Structure	April	May	June
Council	30		28
Executive Committee	19	31	19
Portfolio Committees	12	24	
Petitions & Public Participation Committee	02		
Ethics & Disciplinary Committee	03		
Municipal Public Accounts Committee	04		02-12
Ward Committees	02-12		05
Mayor – Magoshi Forum			06
Mayor – Chairpersons	04-05		01
Institutional Performance Review Forum	02	02	
Land Use Management Forum		03	
Energy Forum		03	
Water Forum		07	
Housing Forum		07	
Transport Forum		08	
Disaster Management Forum		08	
Waste Management Forum		02	
LED Forum		09	
Tourism Forum		09	
Local Communicators Forum		10-22	
Ward Public Meetings			

RHEINLAND HARDWARE (GA-MPHOSI)

PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL & SANITARY WARE



30 YEARS IN OPERATION

FREE DELIVERY ALL OVER LIMPOPO

GLASS CUT FOR FREE WHILE YOU WAIT

COME IN
FOR
UNBEATABLE
DEALS

TEL: 015 505 3192

Shop No 20, Senwabarwana Complex

PROGRESS REPORT ON CAPITAL PROJECTS

NAME OF PROJECT	BUDGET	PROGRESS AS AT 31/03/2012
Desmond park Internal streets/storm water	R3, 450 000	100% complete and handed over to the Municipality on 20/09/2011
Alldays Multipurpose Centre Comprising of community hall; offices and taxi shelter(2009/10 project)	R 1,500,000	Phase 2 of the project (fencing; upgrading of ablution blocks and access road) is at tender stage which closes on 04/04/2012. According to the Plan the project will be completed by end of July 2012
Eldorado Satellite office	R3 000 000	98%. Project is completed and has since been taken occupation of in January 2012
Eldorado Sports Complex Phase 2	R 9 800 000	90% complete (Grand stand completed, with brickwork outstanding). Contractor has abandoned site on technicalities which are being sorted out with him
Senwabarwana Ext 5 Electrification project	R5 000 000	99% complete. ESKOM is busy with capturing of data and the contractor is addressing the snag list
Witten Extension E lectricification project	R 3 250, 000	100% complete and was energized on 04/03/2012
Hananoa Electrification Project	R 1, 200 000	Construction is yet to resume. Memorandum of Understanding has been signed. The contractor is awaiting delivery of solar panels from the supplier
Alldays (Speaker Park) Internal Street and storm water extension	R7 200 000	95% complete. Project is practically completed. Outstanding is the final inspection for Completion and Close – Up Reports
Puraspan Internal Street and Storm water Extension	R7 500 000	95% complete. Project is practically completed. Outstanding is the final inspection for Completion and Close – Up Reports
Senwabarwana Traffic Station	R7,200,000	35% complete. Setting and site establishment completed. Contractor is currently busy with palisade fencing and earth works
Alldays Cemetery Upgrading	R1,100,000	10% complete. The Project is at Adjudication Stage
Senwabarwana Cemetery Upgrading	R1,500,000	70% complete(Palisade Fence completed. Contractor currently busy with installation of Waterloo toilets



BLOUBERG COUNCIL LISTENS TO ITS PEOPLE

Blouberg Municipality held its 3rd Ordinary Council Meeting for the year 2011/2012 on the 29th of March 2012 at Letswatla Village in Ward 21. Residents from the surrounding villages of Thorpe; Thebere; Diepsloot, Berg – en - Dal and Mokhurumela filled the marquee tent to capacity to hear the municipal state of affairs and raise their service delivery complaints with the leadership.

The first and main report was that of the Auditor General on municipal finance performance for the year 2010/11. For the year in question Blouberg Municipality got a qualified opinion with only five queries, which is the best of its reports since inception. Mr Lawrance Nevhutalu of the Limpopo Office of the Auditor General impressed on the Council to develop and monitor implementation of an action plan to turn things around. This would include, among other things, putting in place effective internal controls, particularly on municipal assets and cash management; updating the valuation roll, and not spending in excess of the approved budget. He gave hope that a clean audit was possible if all stakeholders could play their roles. The council also discussed reports from monthly Executive Committee meetings.

When given an opportunity to interact with their leaders, most residents applauded the Council under the leadership of Cllr Serite Sekgoloane for its hard work in making sure that the lives of the communities are practically improved. However bad road conditions; the need for home based care facilities and theft of water pumps spoilt what could have become a day of praises. Residents complained bitterly about the bumpy road between Ga-Rammutla (Vergelegeng) and Eldorado as well as the need for a bridge on the road between Letswatla and Tolwe where they do most of their daily businesses. It moved the Mayor to hear that residents knew who were involved in the theft of diesel water pumps but that they would not be willing to come out on the matter as they feared for their personal safety, more so, as they alleged, the scheme involved rich farm



owners and some corrupt members of the SAPS.

In response, the visibly shaken Mayor, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane, declared war to reclaim government authority in the area. He instructed his officials to forward duplicates of the records of the meeting, including the video, to the affected departments of Safety and Security; Roads and Transport; and Education. He agreed with the residents' sentiments that the roads in the area were indeed bad and that he had long reported the matter to his counter parts in the Provincial Government who were the authority on the roads in issue. "If all owners of diesel water pumps in the area could be requested to produce ownership documents thereof most of them will not be able to do so. And that becomes the entry point into understanding the mondis operandi of the diesel engine stealing syndicate," The Mayor said to the applause of the residents. "We have a war to fight and we cannot succumb to criminals and still remain leaders of the affected people," the Mayor said as he promised again to take up the matter with the Provincial Commissioner as well as going on an offensive to replace diesel pump engines with electrical ones. In conclusion on the water challenges, the Mayor made a commitment to the Letswatla residents that their leaking dam that resulted in shortage of water will be fixed within a week or two.

On the roads issue the Mayor told residents that the Municipality was fully



aware of the challenge and that proposals have been forwarded to Roads and Transport and the Office of the Premier and that the Premier had since highlighted in his 2012 State of the Province Address to prioritise addressing the bad roads conditions in the Blouberg municipal area. He said the Municipality has a programme to look after the municipal roads and internal roads, which are its funded mandate. Chairperson responsible for Community Services, Cllr Tutja TP, was tasked to shortly visit all home based care centres in Blouberg to check their statuses and recommend how the Municipality could assist them.



BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGNS BEAR FRUITS



MEC Kekana motivates Nakedi High School learners.

Education is Government's priority number one. To that end, Blouberg Local Municipality, despite not being an authority on education, continues to make a concerted contribution. Since taking office in 2008, the Mayor, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane, has not skipped a year without taking part in the back to school campaigns. During these campaigns he visits schools in their first days of opening to congratulate the best performing school and motivate those that would have not done well in their previous Grade 12 results. Last year during the back to school campaign the Mayor donated over 200 bicycles to Matsiokwane High school, Mabea and Sekhung Combined school as a way of ensuring that long distances did not deter disadvantaged learners from achieving their educational objectives.

The 2012 back to school campaign in Blouberg kicked off on the first school day, Wednesday 18th January 2012 at Matsiokwane High school (the school the Mayor had motivated at the beginning of the year). This because the school recorded the highest improvement in their 2011 Grade 12 performance, running away with 96% pass rate.

On the 2nd day of school Mayor Sekgoloane in the company of the MEC for Local Economic Development Environment and Tourism (then Roads and Transport) Pinky Kekana were on site to ensure a smooth start. Learners at Mathipa-Makgato and Nakedi bit all odds to attend the first day of school. MEC Kekana praised Mathipa-Makgato for their consistency, having produced 76% percent in 2011 matric results and being named the best school in producing quality results.

Another school visited during the campaign was Nakedi Secondary school at De Vrede village. Nakedi has dramatically dropped from over 60% in

the previous years to 31% in 2011. MEC Kekana urged educators to be more



Confirmation that the MEC will look after the educational needs of Thapelo Tjapudi.

LESEDI PRIVATE FET COLLEGE

REGISTRATION: 2010/024851/07

SIRA GRADE COURSES

- Grade E to A Courses
- Armed Response Course
- C.I.T. Course
- National Key Point Course
- Firearm Training Course

SASSETA COURSES

- Patrol Security Officer
- Access Control Officer
- Assets & Reaction Officer
- Firearm Competency

Block C10, Stand No 384, Shallas Complex, Senwabarwana, 0790
P.O.Box 5077, Senwabarwana 0790
Tel: (015) 505 3166 Cell: 083 892 1537 / 082 763 0294
Fax: 086 606 9392, Email: lesedisecurity@webmail.co.za
www.lesedisecurity.co.za

- FREE REFRESHMENTS FOR ALL ENROLLED LEARNERS
- FREE T-SHIRT IF YOU PAY CASH
- ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE



ACCREDITED WITH SIRA
0653140 1939



CAPRICORN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY REACHES OUT TO LOCALS

In a bid to enhance public participation and promote transparency, Capricorn District Municipality (CDM) together with Blouberg Local Municipality afforded communities of Blouberg another opportunity to raise their service deliver challenges on the 30th of January 2012. The joint initiative took place at Non – Parella village in ward 04 and was led by the District Executive Mayor, Cllr Makgabo Mapoulo, and the Local Mayor, Cllr Serite Sekgoloane. Water services, jobs; and bad road conditions, were the thorniest issues raised by residents.

Albert Masegela from Ga-Kgatla complained that part of the village is without water. Same goes to Ga- Kobe and Ga- Hlako villages. In response it was indicated that the community members have tapped into the raising main to fill their water tanks and this disturbed water circulation. To remedy the situation Blouberg Municipality indicated that they had revised their list of proposed projects for 2012/13 Financial Year projects to accommodate the most constraint areas. Meanwhile the District is in a process of rehabilitating the Kobe Water Scheme that is shared by nine villages including Ga-Hlako.

Regarding roads it was indicated that Blouberg Municipality, through its newly established Roads Maintenance Division, working together with Roads and Transport Department, has developed a Roads Maintenance Plan to improve roads conditions in the Blouberg area.

To address job shortage 700 hundred employment has been created through Community Works Programme to cater for the unemployed in all 21 wards of Blouberg.



Cllr Maria Lekganyane - Speaker of CDM directing proceedings.



From left: Cllr Mapoulo (Executive Mayor of CDM), Cllr Sekgoloane (Mayor of Blouberg) and Cllr Baloyi (Chief Whip of CDM).

Other communal issues raised during the Council, including needs for pre-schools; clinics; grazing camps for livestock, schools; accessible pension pay points; etc were respectively referred to the municipalities' IDP processes; the Department of Health & Social Development; Education; Agriculture and the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) respectively.

BLOUBERG CYBERSHOP



COMPUTER SALES & REPAIRS / CCTV / INTERCOMS / NETWORKING

Is your computer troubled by viruses?
"We remove the virus without compromising your files"
!!! WE FIX ALL COMPUTER PROBLEMS WHILE U WAIT !!!
"WITH US THERE IS NO BEYOND REPAIR"

INTERNET CAFE

- INTERNET ACCESS
- TYPING
- EMAILING
- FAXING
- PRINTING

WE ALSO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:
 GRAPHIC DESIGN, T-SHIRT PRINTING, PROMOTIONAL GIFTS,
 BUSINESS MACHINES, ADVERTISING & STATIONARY



Shop No C7, Shallas Complex
Senwabarwana, 0790

082 2508 222
084 8204 539
cybershop@vodamail.co.za

"The Best For You"

SASOL SENWABARWANA

OPEN 24 HRS

Fast, Convenient and Friendly service



Cheapest fuel and gas in Limpopo

Cnr My Darling and Indermak Road, Senwabarwana

Contact us on: 082 705 6722



Cnr My Darling & Indermark Road

Your One Stop Shop for Healthy Meals

FREE DELIVERY

OPEN 24 HOURS



For free delivery contact: 082 353 7785