Bay News

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MUNICIPAL, COMMUNITY, ARTS, CULTURE & SPORTS

FREE!

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Violence against Women under the loop
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The drought continues – info on dam levels
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Bay I-Hub Incubator given a thumbs-up!

Mandela Bay youth is making waves with innovation and development

A business Incubator funded by the Municipality that is training and advising Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) owned by local young creative entrepreneurs in ICT has received a huge thumbs-up.

Based on the First Floor of Kwantu Towers, Vuyisile Mini Square, Govan Mbeki Avenue in the CBD of Port Elizabeth, the Incubator or I-Hub was recently visited by a number of Nelson Mandela Bay Councillors. They were very impressed by the creativity and innovative spirit of the youth of the Bay, said Entrepreneurship Development Officer (EDO) Karabo Nxiweni.

Explaining, Nxiweni said that the Small Enterprise Development Agency (Seda) ICT Incubator was initially based in Newton Park but, following advice from the Manager, Phumza Mfenyana, it relocated to City Central to help the youth access the place easier.

“We incubate businesses in our city. We advise, coach and provide soft business skills training to local entrepreneurs,” Nxiweni said, adding that apart from with the Municipality, they were also working with the Innovator Trust for a more intensive programme; its criteria are quite different from the I-Hub’s.

Rattling off some names of the businesses that they were helping and what those businesses did, Nxiweni mentioned Ageboy Entertainment, owned by Siyabonga Mana (Graphic Design and Animation); Prompt IT, by Mazola Ngwekaz (Coding and Robotic Training as well as Networking and Fibre); Ululo Empowerment Technologies, owned by Akhona Mlilo (IT Training); Intwasa Enterprise Group (App Development, Coding and Training) owned by Collies Chiruza; and JR Prodigy (Optic Fibre and Smart Water Meter), owned by Rodney Louis.

To be incubated, SMMEs must be registered, make at least

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Entrepreneurship Development Officer Karabo Nxiweni (second right, back) with I-Hub SMME owners

PLEASE KEEP WITHIN THE HOUSEHOLD LIMIT OF 500l PER DAY

REPORT LEAKS AND WATER ABUSE: 0800 20 50 50
IDP and Budget Public Participation meetings

Two-way communication platform between Municipality and residents

The past three weeks saw the Municipality go out to all areas of the Metro to meet with residents in terms of the 2019/20 IDP (Integrated Development Plan) and Budget Public Participation sessions. These meetings are annually called by the Municipality and represent a vital important platform on which residents and different stakeholder groupings can air their views on the development of their areas, giving them an opportunity to contribute and shape the Municipality’s service delivery plans and budgeting.

The broad consultations that took place since 30 September across the City gave a clear indication that while progress had been made in service delivery, a lot of work still needed to be done to improve the quality of life and restores the dignity of the poor and vulnerable communities within Nelson Mandela Bay.

Consultation took place over a broad spectrum: partners and sectors such as the youth, children, persons with disabilities, women, older persons, religion, small businesses, sport, culture and other spheres of government, including key stakeholders such as private sector, were consulted.

Residents in KwaMzukazi came out in numbers to attend the Municipality’s IDP and Budget Public Participation meeting

IDP meetings held at the Nangoza Jebe Hall (Wards 14, 15, 16 and 17) and at the Lillian Ngoyi Sports Centre (Wards 18, 19, 20 and 21) were well attended, as was the meeting for residents of Ward 23, Portion of Ward 53 (Colchester and Amanzi Estate) and Ward 56.

Key issues raised by the residents were the need to obtain title deeds to their properties, water, electricity, infrastructural development, housing rectification, multipurpose centres, speed humps and streetlights.

At a meeting at the Linton Grange Library, residents from Wards 9, 39 and portion of Ward 12 asked for more sports and recreational facilities in their areas, as well as improved communication about infrastructure activities. The Municipality was also asked to improve spending on its Budget, while residents expressed their dissatisfaction about the state of road markings, potholes and signage in their areas.

Residents from Ward 9 voiced the need for a bus shelter, additional lights, parks and stormwater improvements.

At a well-attended meeting in the KwaMzukazi Community Hall, the residents of Wards 30 and 36 appealed for a multipurpose centre and a police station to be established in their area, while concerns were raised about illegal dumping and the state of cleanliness in the area.

Veeplaads residents highlighted the need for a library and multipurpose centre.

The input gained over the course of this public participation programme will be used to formulate an Integrated Development Plan and Budget and enable the Municipality to ensure that its developmental programmes are aligned with and informed by the needs of Metro communities. The Draft IDP and Budget will be tabled to Council in March next year, after which a second round of public participation meetings will be undertaken in April 2020.

The finalised version of the IDP will be submitted to Council in May 2020 for adoption.

FROM PAGE 1

a minimum of R5 000 a month, have a Tax Clearance Certificate, a BEE Certificate and a functional banking account for their businesses.

The Incubator is, however, also assisting those clients still finding their feet to make sure that their businesses succeed, Nxiweni said, adding that they were assisting young entrepreneurs who want to become their own bosses.

Nxiweni said that the Incubator advertised its programmes in newspapers and on social media networks.

She admitted that there was still much they could do to tell the youth of Nelson Mandela Bay and the Eastern Cape of the programme to equip the youth with business acumen. The Incubator contacts businesses running exhibitions to put up stalls to advertise its services.

All entrepreneurs (not necessarily in ICT only) are invited to the upcoming Entrepreneur Day themed “Motivating and Encouraging SMMEs” which will be held in Kwanto Towers and addressed by Khusta Jack on 1 November.

Enquiries on I-Hub: 041 409 8000

FROM PAGE 2

The Department of Roads and Transport of the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality has been hard at work, surfacing existing roads and building new roads around the Metro. Recently, the Executive Mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay, Cllr Mongameli Bobani, together with the NMBM MMC of Roads and Transport, Cllr Rosie Daaminds and the MMC of Infrastructure and Engineering, Cllr Andile Lungisa, officiated at the launch of Acacia Road in Rosedale, Uitenhage and Leen Street in Colchester.

The surfacing of these minor roads, ungravelled roads and the stormwater reticulation project started on 22 May 2019 and was completed on 29 August 2019. MMC Rosie Daaminds expressed how impressed she was with the contractors, who managed to complete the project on time and within budget. She also thanked the community for looking after the peace, as there were no interruptions throughout the development of these roads.

The community of Rosedale expressed their appreciation by cheering when Mayor Bobani took to the stage. “I promised that you would see me on the ground to make sure that service delivery is happening. W this project is part of that promise,” said Mayor Bobani.

Transport Monti: Roads opened in Uitenhage & Colchester

Executive Mayor Mongameli Bobani with (right) MMC: Roads & Transport, Rosie Daaminds

Message from the Executive Mayor Cllr Mongameli Bobani

Fellow residents of Nelson Mandela Bay

In this edition, you will find news on the programmes and projects undertaken by the Municipality to transform our city into a place where all can enjoy equal opportunity and quality services. We want to inform you and inspire you!

In addition to our service delivery news, this edition touches on two critical situations in our city: the continuing drought and the high incidence of violence against women and children.

While we are a popular summer holiday destination, water usage usually increases as the temperatures rise. The recent rains largely skipped our catchment areas - and our dam levels are dropping. I appeal to our residents to double their efforts to save every drop and stretch our existing water supply until abundant rains fall again.

From my heart, I thank our many residents who have responded magnificently to the call and have been saving water with great dedication and ingenuity.

On page 3, we create greater awareness of the epidemic of violence against women and children – a blight on South African society and many other countries all over the world.

Let us all stand together and speak out. Enough is enough!
Unmasking Violence against Women: Facts and Myths about Violence against Women in South Africa

Statistics on domestic violence in South Africa are limited, but 15 609 murders and 64 500 reported rapes in 2016 and 2017 suggest massive levels of violence in our homes. Household surveys have found that 40% of men have hit their partners and that one in four men has raped a woman!

In collaboration with local law enforcement agencies, the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality has prioritised the high incidence of violence against women and children in our city through a number of programmes. Below, find some of the information that the Municipality hands out to stakeholders and residents in an effort to focus attention on this scourge in our midst.

Facts about domestic violence at a glance:
- On average in every 7 women around the world is beaten, abused or coerced into sex during their lifetime.
- Many women in Africa report experiencing forced sex: 30 percent in Kenya, 24 percent in Uganda, 5 percent in Zimbabwe and 30 percent in South Africa.
- Violence against women is now recognised as a critical public health and fundamental human rights issue.

Types of violence against Women:
- Physical violence.
- Sexual violence.
- Economic violence.
- Emotional violence.
- Using power and control over women is considered a form of violence.

Causes of violence against Women:
- Women’s low status at home and in the community.
- Women are considered less valuable than and subordinate to men.
- Contributing factors: while alcohol and poverty are often identified as causes, they are triggers and not the root causes of violence!

Unmasking Violence: The Scourge in the Life Cycle of Women:
- Infancy: when they are born, girl babies in some parts of Africa are vulnerable to general neglect, such as they receive less healthcare and nutrition than male children of the same age.
- Childhood: young girls are faced with sexual abuse, malnutrition and overwork.
- Adolescence: forced prostitution, coercion, transactional sex, trafficking, forced early marriage, rape and other forms of sexual abuse.
- Reproductive age: intimate partner violence, sexual assault by non-partner or intimate partner, sexual harassment, sex trafficking.
- Elderly: elder/widow abuse, loss of land and inheritance, rape.

Consequences of Violence against Women for Women:
- Physical consequences: physical injuries, fractures, concussion, cuts, broken bones or gunshot wounds; and poor health: chronic pain, gastrointestinal disorders, permanent disability, and death due to homicide or suicide.
- Sexual consequences: unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, miscarriages and low birth weight babies.
- Depression, hopelessness, lack of satisfaction.
- Strain on the finances of the family due to expenditure on treatment and loss of productive hours.
- Imprisonment.
- Community resources used for solving violence cases with authorities i.e. police, family and clan leaders.

Consequences of Violence against Women for Children:
- Children live in fear all the time.
- Low self-esteem.
- Problems at school, such as poor performance.
- Violent behaviour.
- Sensitivity.
- Withdrawal from activities.
- Sleeping problems.
- Women have human rights: the right to life, the right to equality, the right to liberty and security of person, the right to equal protection under the law, the right to free from all forms of discrimination, and the right not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- For health reasons: we need to reduce the serious consequences to women’s physical and mental health caused by violence against them; and reduce the transmission of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS.
- Economic reasons: we need to reduce the burden on healthcare systems and the strain on family resources and national resources; and foster economic growth by having more productive hours, as the victims of violence spend less hours in production.

As a man, what can you do?
- Commit to non-violence in your own relationships.
- Talk to other men about the benefits of a healthy relationship.
- Plan and enjoy fun things together with your family.
- Share family responsibilities with your partner.
- Respect your partner as you wish to be respected.
- Treat your girl and young children equally.
- Foster in boys and young men a respect for girls and young women.

As a young person, what can you do?
- Commit to non-violence in all your relationships.
- Talk to your friends about healthy relationships.
- Offer support to friends experiencing violence.
- Respect each other, boys and girls, as equals.
- Respect that ‘no means no’.
- Learn how to solve problems by talking, not fighting.
- Join or create youth groups to talk about issues important to you.

As a community member, what can you do?
- Believe women when they tell you that they are experiencing violence.
- Speak out when you know violence is happening.
- Model healthy relationships in your family and work-place.
- Encourage others to share family responsibilities.
- Pray in churches and mosques that happy families are non-violent families.
- Advocate for zero-tolerance policies for sexual violence in your schools.
- As Police, health workers or other professionals, be supportive and encouraging to women who report violence.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN?

As a woman, what can you do?
- Talk to family members about the benefits of a healthy relationship.
- Support other women experiencing violence.
- Foster in boys and young men a respect for girls and young women.
- Treat your boy and girl children equally.
- Be open, honest and direct with young people when they ask about sex and relationships.
- Seek support when you are experiencing violence.

As a community member, what can you do?
- Believe women when they tell you that they are experiencing violence.
- Speak out when you know violence is happening.
- Model healthy relationships in your family and work-place.
- Encourage others to share family responsibilities.
- Pray in churches and mosques that happy families are non-violent families.
- Advocate for zero-tolerance policies for sexual violence in your schools.
- As Police, health workers or other professionals, be supportive and encouraging to women who report violence.
THE DROUGHT CONTINUES ... 
AND OUR DAM LEVELS ARE DROPPING!

The 2018 – 2019 drought in South Africa and Nelson Mandela Bay continues. The one or two bouts of rain we did receive over recent months largely skipped our catchment areas - and made virtually no impact on our dam levels.

As a result, the levels of our main supply dams remain low (as at 14 October 2019):

KOUGA – 37.31%
(most of this water is destined for Patensie farmers)

CHURCHILL – 90.36%
(this dam has a capacity of only 30% of that of the Impofu Dam)

IMPOFU – 17.54%

GROENDAL – 44.16%

ON AVERAGE, OUR SUPPLY DAMS ARE ONLY 37.02% FULL.
OF PARTICULAR CONCERN IS THE LOW LEVEL OF THE CRITICALLY IMPORTANT IMPOFU DAM.

It has switched off water supply to its own facilities:

1. EMERGENCY SCHEMES

- Disc/Flow restrictors are installed on the properties of high water consumers, as identified by the Municipality.
- Hosepipes may not be used at all (to water gardens, wash cars, hose down walls or paving, top up pools, fountains or ponds, etc.), unless the water is from a source other than municipal (e.g. a borehole) or the water is used for firefighting purposes.
- The municipal water supply may not be used to water gardens, wash cars, hose down walls or paving, top up pools, fountains or ponds, etc.
- Sprinklers or irrigation systems may not be used, unless the water is from a source other than municipal.
- All building contractors are required to use treated effluent, collected from the Fishwater Flats Wastewater Works (or any other appropriate wastewater treatment works), other than for concrete work.
- All current and future borehole users and drilling contractors must register with the Municipality and comply with the conditions attached to such registration (e.g. you may not sell or transfer your own borehole water for use on other properties).
- Only non-municipal water may be used to fill or top up swimming pools.
- The use of automatic urinal flushing systems is prohibited.
- All local car washes are required to recycle 60% of their water.
- Each person in a household needs to consume less than 50 litres of water a day; OR every household must use less than 15 kilolitres of water per month.

The Municipality wishes to thank the many residents who have responded to the call and found innovative ways of saving water. How great your response was, is clearly evident from the stats: two years ago (before the drought) the consumption of the city was a whopping 345 megalitres per day.

Thanks to your efforts, and the Municipality’s water management plan, consumption was cut by about 73 megalitres to 272 megalitres a day last month (September).

We appeal to every resident to refocus and try to save every drop in order to stretch our existing water supply until the heavens open and abundant rains fall again. And that is not predicted to happen soon: the South African Weather Services recently reported that below normal rainfall and above-average temperatures are expected for the Eastern Cape area during the next three months. This will add pressure to our already stressed system.

Our dams levels are dropping, and summer is upon us. As the temperatures rise, residents start to use more water. The Municipality therefore has no option but to enforce drastic measures. Here is the challenge: we need to cut our daily consumption as a city to 250 megalitres a day (we currently use 272 megalitres a day). To bring this home: each person in your household needs to consume less than 50 litres of water a day; OR every household must use less than 15 kilolitres of water per month.

Reaching this will not be easy, but it can be done! Please study the water-saving tips on this page, and share tips with your neighbours and family members. Please think twice when you reach for the tap!

Thank you for your continued efforts and for helping us save the Bay!

WATER RESTRICTIONS IN FORCE

NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING WATER RESTRICTIONS, INTRODUCED IN SEPTEMBER 2018, REMAIN IN FORCE:

- Disc/Flow restrictors are installed on the properties of high water consumers, as identified by the Municipality.
- Hosepipes may not be used at all (to water gardens, wash cars, hose down walls or paving, top up pools, fountains or ponds, etc.), unless the water is from a source other than municipal (e.g. a borehole) or the water is used for firefighting purposes.
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- The use of automatic urinal flushing systems is prohibited.
- All local car washes are required to recycle 60% of their water.
- Each person in a household needs to consume less than 50 litres of water a day; OR every household must use less than 15 kilolitres of water per month.

The Municipality has also imposed restrictions on itself regarding water usage at its own facilities:
- It has switched off water supply to municipal showers around recreational facilities.
- Municipal swimming pools are being filled with suitable ground water.
- Municipal parks are being watered with non-municipal water, e.g. borehole water.

WHAT HAS THE MUNICIPALITY DONE ABOUT THE WATER SITUATION? The Municipality has implemented a number of emergency schemes and interventions to mitigate the consequences of the water shortage. Here are some of them:

1. EMERGENCY SCHEMES

- Making available non-potable water to the public at no cost, to offset potable water consumption: - Promoting use and making available return effluent water from all waste water treatment plants. - Making available untreated ground water at Coega Kop (this water can be collected at the Motherwell Cemetery).
- Using additional clarified and chlorinated unfiltered water from the Nokoolgedagt Water Treatment Works to increase the Municipality’s total treatment capacity by 30 megalitres per day.
- Planning and completing feasibility studies for the desalination of sea water.
- Fast-tracking the construction of the new Coega Kop Water Treatment Works and Well Field ground water from the artesian aquifers in the area surrounding Coega Kop.

2. INTERVENTIONS

- Human capital resourcing, i.e. staff recruitment comprised the appointment of 13 plumbers, as well as 1 Senior Superintendent, 2 Superintendents and 6 Installation Inspectors.
- Other interventions:
  - Sourcing external capacity to augment internal capacity – Contractors were procured to assist in leak detection and fixing.
  - Intensification of the Assistance To The Poor (ATTP) Programme – This Programme inter alia ensures that internal leaks in indigent local households are fixed.
  - Serving notices to schools that consistently record high consumption.
  - Installing water demand management devices at schools to stop water abuse.
  - Training Peace Officers authorised to issue fines to water abusers and enforce the NMBM Water & Sanitation Bylaw.
  - A 10-year business plan was developed and approved by Council to deal with the major problem of non-revenue water, as well as bulk water supply and meters; remote meter reading; pressure management and billing management; water and sanitation tariffs; leak repairs; operations and maintenance; domestic meter audits; valve and hydrant audits; water meter replacement; reservoir rehabilitation; and community awareness.

We urge all our stakeholders to be vigilant in the protection of our water infrastructure, as water disruptions are occurring as a result of theft and vandalism at reservoirs and pump installations.

We thank all our residents and stakeholders for working with us to mitigate the impact of the water shortage. We require the active participation of each and every resident to ensure water sustainability in our City.

Please take up the challenge of bringing our consumption down to 250 megalitres a day. We can do it!
How to read a Municipal Statement

Issue 2 of our explanation of the items on your municipal statement – in case you are worried that you may not interpret the entries correctly.

On the right, you will see a municipal statement that we created specially to explain to you exactly what each term or item on a municipal statement means. The circled entries indicated by the numbers in the blue and red circles on the left and right of the statement are explained in the similarly numbered entries in this section.

We trust that the explanations will help you read your own municipal account with ease and give you peace of mind, knowing that you are interpreting your statement correctly.

● NOTE: While the statement to the right reflects standard items and terms, it was created for explanatory purposes only and the amounts and figures on the sample are fictitious.

EXPLANATION OF ENTRIES (CORRESPONDING WITH NUMBERS ON STATEMENT)

1. Date on which meter reading was obtained.
   (Note: This should be read as "approximately around that date").

2. Date on which the next meter reading will be obtained (Note: This date should be read as "approximately around that date").

3. Water meter scale to determine whether meter is domestic (05A) or business. Water meter number

4. This warning message relates to the overdue balance on the statement. Ignore message if you have a payment receipt for the same amount dated after the statement date above.

5. Page number of this statement.

6. Security deposit held for water and/or electricity services. This deposit is refundable when account is closed upon sale of property.

7. Total water charge, including VAT and availability charge.

8. Sewerage charge, based on a max of 11 kilolitres of water consumed.

9. Monthly property rates instalment, based on the relevant property value and rating category.

10. Important information every account holder should know.

Assistance on offer – Are you unable to pay your municipal account?

SEE WHICH OPTION BELOW SUITS YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES THE BEST:

* Please note that in all the options below the total household income of all household occupants living on the property, not the account holder and spouse’s income only, was added together.

1. Assistance to the Poor (ATTP) Subsidy
   The total household income may not exceed R3560 per month (child grant excluded) and once qualified, all arrears will be written off, and a 100% subsidy on rates, 8 kl subsidy on water and free 75 kWh will be provided. Account-holders must re-apply every 3 years.

2. Pensioners Property Rates Rebate
   The total household income must be between R3561 and R13 408 per month and, once qualified, a percentage of property rates will be written off for the financial year. Account-holders must re-apply every year.

3. Rates exemption
   Public benefits organisations who qualify for exemption in terms of Section 30 of the Income Tax act of 1962, may apply to be exempted from property rates.

4. Affordable repayment arrangement plan
   Based on the total household income, affordable down-payments and repayment terms (6-48 months) can be made available to settle arrears. No down payment is required should you sign a salary stop/debit order.

Application Rules:
● The account holder must apply in person
● The account holder must supply ID and proof of income of all household occupants
● Application can be made at any municipal Customer Care office
● Formal application form must be completed together with supporting documents
● For more information, contact the Accounts Helpline tel: 041-506 5555 OR email customercare@mandelametro.gov.za

We are here to help you!
NMBM MOBILE APPLICATION

MAKING IT EASY FOR YOU!

USE YOUR CELLULAR PHONE TO ACCESS INFO 24/7 / 365!

How can I register for this facility?
- Use your cell phone to register - Sign up by downloading the NMBM Mobile Application, then click on the sign-up button.
- Obtain IVR Registration form from any municipal Customer Care Centre around the City.
- Contact the Account’s Helpline: tel. 041 506 5555.
- Access the NMBM website (www.nelsonmandelabay.gov.za) to register for this facility - Click on the ‘Residents’ button, then on the blue ribbon ‘E-Services’, select ‘IVR-account services’ and click on the sign-up button to access services such as balance enquiries and fax/email statements.

Which types of incidents can one report by pressing the incident report button?
- Water leaks
- Burst pipes
- Blocked sewerage
- Faulty water meters
- Faulty street lights
- No electricity/water in the area
- Potholes
- High consumption

Other services:
- Track your RDP housing application.
- Report fraud.
- Municipal account related: balance enquiries, account payments, submit meter readings, etc.

How do I submit IDP suggestions and/or comments?
Use the IDP IVR button on the NMBM Mobile Application.

What if I forget my PIN number?
1. Reset you PIN number on the NMBM Mobile Application.
2. Via the ‘E-Services’ tab on the NMBM website (IVR-account services) (www.nelsonmandelabay.gov.za)

USE YOUR CELL PHONE TO RECEIVE & REQUEST MUNICIPAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION!
You can now receive and request the following services from your mobile phone:
- Get your current municipal account statement
- Balance enquiries
- Submission of meter readings
- Make account payments
- Purchase pre-paid electricity

This application is available from the following smartphone stores: Blackberry World, App Store, Play Store (type in ‘NMBM Mobile Application’ and click search)

ALTERNATIVELY:
1. Go to m.getjar.mobi on your phone
2. Select ‘Quick Download’ at the bottom of the page
3. Enter 806262

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Contact the Customer Care Helpline on tel. 041 506 5555 OR e-mail us at: ivrhelp@mandelametro.gov.za OR visit our website (www.nelsonmandelabay.gov.za)
Exciting exhibitions at Art Museum

There is a magical, transcendental experience that only art can give. The Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum at 1 Park Drive, Central has put together three exhibitions that are sure to challenge and delight art lovers and viewers.

**Sketchbook 2.0 Works on Show:**

On show until mid-November at the Art Museum are the works of 15 young local artists, fresh from training in terms of the 2019 Sketchbook 2.0: Visual Art Project.

Throughout September 2019, these young artists were given the opportunity to strengthen their skills through the 2019 Sketchbook 2.0: Visual Art Project. Sketchbook 2.0 is a developmental art training initiative coordinated by the Red Location Gallery Chief Curator, Uthando Baduza and managed by the Sketchbook 2.0 Programme Director, Pola Maneli.

This project, which is fully sponsored by the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, gave these artists, who have not had the benefit of formal training, a platform to interact with different mediums, develop a range of new techniques, and hold critical discussions with art professionals to perfect their skills as young artists. The artists were selected through an adjudication process held at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum in August 2019.

Sketchbook artist Asanda Noduda stated that, to him, “Sketchbook means creating something of your own”, while artist Nicita Tatyn said she learnt that “Sketchbooking is about putting your drawing into practice”.

The Sketchbook 2.0 artists include:

- Shawn Sokiya
- Nieta Tatyn
- Crayden Malgas
- Branden Geswint
- Damiandre Hill
- Muzi Sobuza
- Caleb Martin
- Phumlile Rawana
- Asanda Noduda
- Ismaael Bloemertjie
- Thembisile Mandlevu
- Maresha Costello
- Mkhuseli Patrick

Note that all the works on display are for sale.

**“Through Our Eyes: Journey to America”**

Local Nelson Mandela Bay artists were invited to submit works for a selected exhibition titled “Through our eyes: Journey to America”, to open at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum on 14 November 2019. Artists selected for this exhibition will have the opportunity to have their works travel to Jacksonville, Florida, USA to be exhibited at the Ritz Museum in early 2020.

The deadline for entries is Friday, 1 November 2019 at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum at 1 Park Drive, Central. Works must be submitted with a completed entry form. Entry forms are currently available at the Art Museum and online on the Art Museum’s website: www.artmuseum.co.za. Hard copies are also available at all NMBM Libraries across the city.

“Art Our Passion – Museum Our Home”

Join the staff of the Nelson Mandela Art Museum in celebrating art from the Museum’s collection in an exhibition titled “Art our Passion – Museum our Home”. The exhibition is curated by all members of the Art Museum team and will run until February 2010 in the Arts Hall of the Art Museum. The Art Museum’s front-of-house team, admin support team, conservator, frame, educator and Director chose the artworks. Next to the selected artworks are quotes and stories sharing experiences or observations about the artwork each member of staff has selected.

Front-of-house staff member Lithemba Ntlele selected beadwork, saying, “As black people, we love our culture, I chose this beadwork because it reminds me of my culture.” Her colleague on the Front-of-house team, Melisizwe Boloti, chose a work celebrating the winning South African 1995 rugby team, in commemoration of the late Chester Williams.
Chippa United Supporters bank on new coach to stay put in Premier League

Team spirit remains high as new tactics are brought in by Zimbabwean Coach

Although Chippa United is Number 16 on the log, with four points scored during eight matches played in this 2019/2020 Season, the members of the Supporters Club for this Nelson Mandela Bay-based Professional Soccer League (PSL) team are, however, not panicking yet, said Supporters’ Club Co-ordinator Pam Buwa.

While the team is in the relegation zone and managed to escape the drop to the National First Division by a whisker last season, Chippa United supporters believe that the only Eastern Cape-based professional football outfit will fight back to occupy a good position on the log standing.

Speaking ahead of the Club’s participation in the Telkom Cup on October 22 against Bloemfontein Celtic and a challenging away game against hard-nut-to-crack Highlands Park on October 26, Buwa was adamant that Chairman Chippa Mpengesi’s team would turn the tide, thanks to the mood in the team since the arrival of Zimbabwean-born coach Norman Mapeza.

According to Buwa, the welcome break given because of the national team Bafana Bafana participating in the Nelson Mandela Cup on October 26, Buwa was adamant that Chairman Chippa Mpengesi’s team would turn the tide, thanks to the mood in the team since the arrival of Zimbabwean-born coach Norman Mapeza.

Although the support base of the Club was growing tremendously, both in Nelson Mandela Bay and around the Eastern Cape Province, Buwa was still not satisfied.

“We want to urge soccer-loving fans to support Chippa United. Players need the 12th player – the fans - especially during their home matches. We also want to thank the members of the newly formed Ngqamakwe branch in the former Transkei,” said Buwa, adding that the fans would also make sure that the team received their loyal support to stay in the Premier League.

“We’re hopeful with the coming in of the new coach. The mind-set of the players is very encouraging. The way they do things is very critical and our observation is that there’s a spirit of camaradie which will translate into the team collecting points in the upcoming league matches,” said Buwa, adding that they were also happy with Chippa’s performance in the friendly game they played here against Bafana Bafana.

Buwa (39), of Port Elizabeth, mentioned that the supporters, who have a major role to play in football, would soon have a session with the management of the club to communicate their undivided support.

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Resurgence of boxing in Nelson Mandela Bay

Newly crowned World Boxing Federation (WBF) All-Africa Mini-flyweight Champion Thembani “Guitar Man” Okolo for winning the World Boxing Federation (WBF) All-Africa Mini-flyweight title in Port Alfred on Sunday 6 October. Okolo, alias “Guitar Man”, stopped Ndikho Magadaza in spectacular fashion in the seventh of their scheduled 12 rounds bout to grab the vacant title.

Williams said: “This is good for boxing in Nelson Mandela Bay. Now Okolo joins Nozibelo Bell, the WBF Female-Junior Lightweight Champion of the world.”

Bell, of Walmer Township, known in boxing circles as Intsimbi, is scheduled to defend her title against Maria Elena Mardena of Argentina over 10 rounds at the Nangoza Jebe Hall on Friday 1 November in a tournament brought courtesy of local female boxing promoter, Boniswa Lamani.

Williams added that she was proud that the success of the duo put pay to the funding the Municipality provided to open boxing to developmental programmes that would take the sport to greater heights.

In a meeting with boxing stakeholders three weeks ago, her Sport and Recreation Department urged them to provide a Master Plan for boxing resurgence in the city named after Nelson Mandela, the hero of the struggle for liberation - himself a boxer in his youth.

From that meeting, the stakeholders met (at Nangoza Jebe Community Hall) on Saturday 12 October to establish a formal structure that would represent the sport of boxing in talks with the Municipality.

This structure, Williams added, must also work towards a boxing indaba to be held in the Metro in the not-too-distant future.

According to NMBM Sport Director Williams, the city was happy with the strides being made by Open Boxing (formerly known as ‘Amateur Boxing’), boxing managers and trainers like Caiphus Ntante who had a penchant for producing national and international boxing champions as well as the boxing veterans who are still involved in the noble sport.

“We also want to give recognition to local boxing promoters who are doing their best to organise tournaments.” – Charmaine Williams

“We also want to give recognition to local boxing promoters who are doing their best to organise tournaments that give our boxers an opportunity to fight. As the Department, we want to help them. But, we must hasten to add, we’d like to deal with credible people; people with integrity who can produce more world-beaters like Bell and Okolo,” said Williams in her closing remarks.