

# THULAMELA

The Official Newsletter of Thulamela Municipality



FIRST EDITION

JANUARY – MARCH 2012

## MAYOR MAHOSI'S 1<sup>ST</sup> PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: A HUGE SUCCESS



*Cultural group performing traditional dances for public participants*



*Mayor Mahosi N.G. addressing community members*

Dzwerani; the village in the South Eastern part of Thohoyandou will always be remembered as the area where Cllr. Grace Mahosi conducted her first ever Public Participation programme as a Mayor of the Thulamela Municipality, following her election to head the Municipality as the Mayor; Mahosi and a host of her councilors and member of the administration staff visited Dzwerani to listen to community dwellers as they voice out their service delivery related concerns.

Public participation is an event designed to create a platform for provincial and municipal public representatives to interact with communities to speed and accelerate service delivery matters. It is used to consult community stakeholders to strengthen strategic partnerships in line with the ethos of participatory democracy and more importantly, afford public representatives an opportunity to account on service delivery matters.

The event that killed differences between community members and groups and fostered family hood, revealed to Mayor Mahosi how rough and painful it can be to live in the most rural of the rural South Africa like Dzwerani.

Various community groups and institutions namely the churches, organization for people with disabilities, commuters, youth formations, traditional leaders, political parties and so on, put their differences aside to talk away the anguish that comes with much less development of their communities.

The South African National Civic Organizations SANCO highlighted the shortage of water in Dzwerani and surrounding areas. In its report it said; "The dam that supplies water to Dzwerani,

Manamani, Ha-Madala, Mahematshena, and Mashawana is the same and it is unable to supply water to all these villages adequately." It further talked on the bad state of roads highlighting the possible collapse of the Dzwerani Bridge, rife criminal activities in the area, poor and unsupported agricultural activities, thriving poverty rate, lack of sanitation and alarming unemployment rate.

The Dzwerani Education desk decried poor facilities in all the village schools that include Andries Mugaguli, Lwamondo and Muthamaro. The facilities include proper classrooms, desks, computer and science laboratories, study libraries and so on.

The business cluster requested the municipality to persuade traditional leaders in the area to relax their conditions on the provision of land so that more land could be made available to aspiring business people. They also talked about crime being a problem to willing investors.

People living with disability requested to be part of every community structure, going with the popular "Nothing about us without us" mantra. They said they were also concerned that their disability grant pay point was too far and not accessible. "Where we get our grants is about 5km away and it's not easily accessible. The municipality must allocate us a nearer pay point." They said in their representations.

In her response to these and other issues raised during the event, Thulamela Mayor Grace Mahosi said her office and the municipality have listened to the people's pleas and

will do all in their power to address them.

***"The ANC government cares about you. We wouldn't have come here if we were not serious about helping you realize what the ANC termed; 'a better future for all'. We are here because we care. We have heard your pleas and we will be doing all in our might to address your problems and challenges."***

Mahosi rapped up by encouraging members of the community to always engage their municipality when they have problems. "Those offices used by us are yours; the people occupying them are your servants. They earn from your purse so use them and that is what they are there for."

She quoted from the 2011 ANC's service delivery pay off line; "Together we can do more." She concluded.



*Community members welcoming Thulamela leadership*





## VISION, MISSION AND MOTTO

### Vision:

- To provide basic services to all our people in a sustainable manner and to create an enabling environment to improve the quality of life of our people
- To turn Thulamela into a tourist destination and productive agricultural area

### Mission:

We build prosperity, eradicate poverty and promote social, political and economic empowerment of all our people through delivery of quality services, community participation, local economic development and smart administration.

**Motto:** We serve with dedication

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

We welcome you to yet another set of 12 months to make up a year we call 2012. We hope you enjoyed your Christmas and bayed a lovely goodbye to 2011. Those of you who device new year's resolutions as proper gauges of your progress throughout the year, we hope and believe you will attain them, as long as you start right now right here; where the year begins.

We at the Thulamela Municipality are looking forward to yet another service delivery orientated year. Having heard the promises made by the president of the Republic, President Jacob Zuma at the recent ruling party's 100 year centenary celebrations held where it all started; in Mangaung, we will in February get to hear the more service delivery directives that will come out of the state of the nation address which will also mark the official opening of the parliament by the president.

Following this will be the State of the Province address that will be delivered by Premier Cassel Mathale. These two events accompanied by the Budget Speech to be delivered by Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan will give us a clear direction as far as service delivery is concerned. We further commit to live up to our last year's local elections' promises.

To parade our seriousness in this regards, we will soon be officially opening several projects that belong to the municipality notably, the intermodal taxi rank facilities, our main library in Thohoyandou, the newest state of the art sporting facilities in Makhuvha village and many others. The opening of the library gives us a much needed impetus as we seek to improve the levels of education in all our schools. With another library on its way in Saselamani, educational growth is certain.

We congratulate Mbilwi Secondary School for continuing to be a glittering jewel in the rust as it once again emerged as the best performing school in the matric class of 2011. Such an achievement can only spur us on in improving the lives of our people.

As I sign out I believe you will enjoy service delivery achievements highlighted in this newsletter.



**Tshiila N.M**  
Communication Manager

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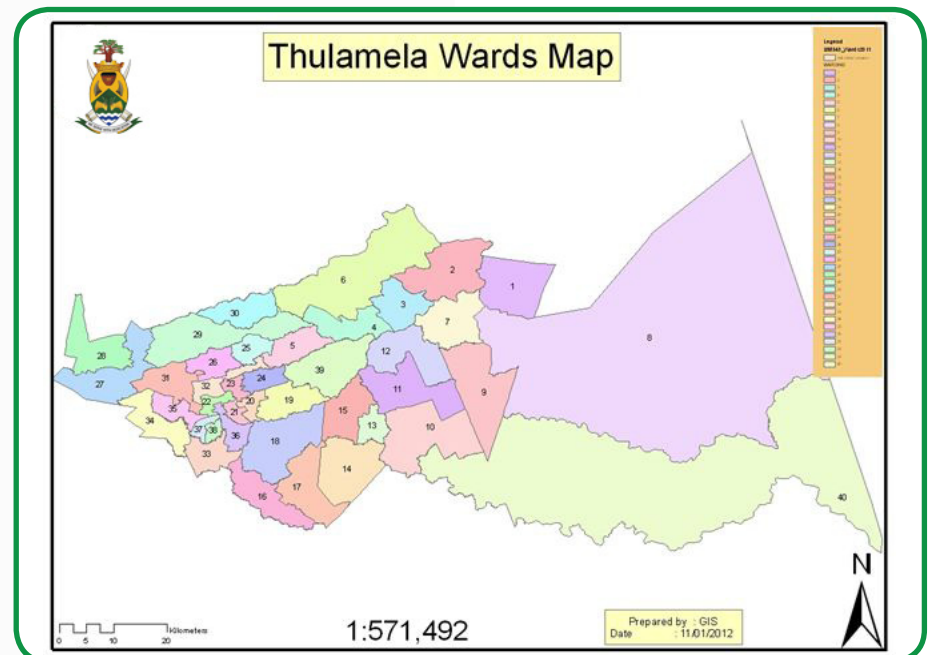
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## FROM THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S DESK

As we welcome you into the year that will hopefully be a bright one on your side, we in the Thulamela Municipality look forward to another year pregnant with major service delivery projects meant to uplift your humble lives.

In the same breath this will mark the first full year for our municipal council that came into power following the last year's local government elections. We therefore wish members of the previous council all the best of fortunes in their endeavour.

Your work did not go unnoticed, you proved to all and sundry; why you emerged the trusted lieutenants of the people and advocates of development as elected by our people in the 2006 local government elections.

We as the Administration arm of government in Thulamela also wish to welcome the new council on board. To them we say; 'Aluta Continua'; the relay that is the struggle for the uplifting of our people continues. You were deployed by your political parties in their variety to come and further the course of our poor majority and please never falter. We as administrators hereby pledge a shower of support to all of you and your people orientated projects.

Our young people, we acknowledge the ticking time bomb that joblessness has become on your side. We therefore submit our never say die commitment to the creation of as many as possible jobs for you. This; in line with the need to transform you economically, thus arming you with the much needed weaponry for future economic wars and battles.

This commitment must also fuse with developmental plans both locally and nationally. As we may all know, government has devised a 2030 developmental plan that aims to drive South Africa to another level on all fronts. Be it economically, socially and otherwise. Our municipality can therefore less afford to be found wanting in this regard.

We as a result call on all of us both in the administration and politics to come together in conceiving our own version of the 2030 developmental plan that will grow our baby; Thulamela into a city. This plan will not only make us up into eagles of development, it will also create more and more jobs for our youth; thus reducing their exodus to the cities of lights and gold in Gauteng.

For all these day dreams to see the light of a day, we do not shy away from inviting members of our community in their groups and individuals, to play their roles in sparing us on to the promised land.

From the Municipal Manager's desk, let's make this year a year of advancing service delivery.

Ndaa!



**Mathivha M.H**  
(Municipal Manager)

## MAYOR MAHOSI PLEDGES A HOUSE



*The Hlungwani family posing against their dilapidated house*

The eleven member family in Dzwerani is just lingering on the verge of kissing a joyous good bye to a doomed house of transparent cracks, rugged paint and leaking roof, thanks to a pledge of a proper house to the family by the Thulamela Mayor Grace Mahosi.

Having seen and assessed the dilapidated house that looked like a hell of destruction, just moments before her first public participation as a mayor of Thulamela in Dzwerani on the 30th of November 2011, Mahosi responded swiftly by offering to build a house for the John Hlungwani's family.

After seeing the appalling conditions that the family was exposed to; Mahosi said it was unfair for people to live in such a death bound house. "17 years into our democracy, this cannot be conditions that we as people are exposed to. We should have better conditions in every part of South Africa, including here in Dzwerani. As the people orientated municipality under the ANC led government we are putting a stop to conditions of this type. And we believe that together with Dzwerani village we can do more to push poverty far away." She said.

Mahosi acknowledged that there were many other families in Dzwerani that shared the same anguish as Hlungwani's. "This is not the only family living in such severe hopelessness, there are many others and as the municipality we shall know no rest until our people are uprooted from such conditions." She promised.

Responding to this beautiful gift, John Hlungwani tried so hard in vain to conceal his joy. "I am very happy that our leaders were able to notice our situation and came up with a timely rescue plan. We love this government; it is indeed a government of the people for the people by the people." He praised the municipality.

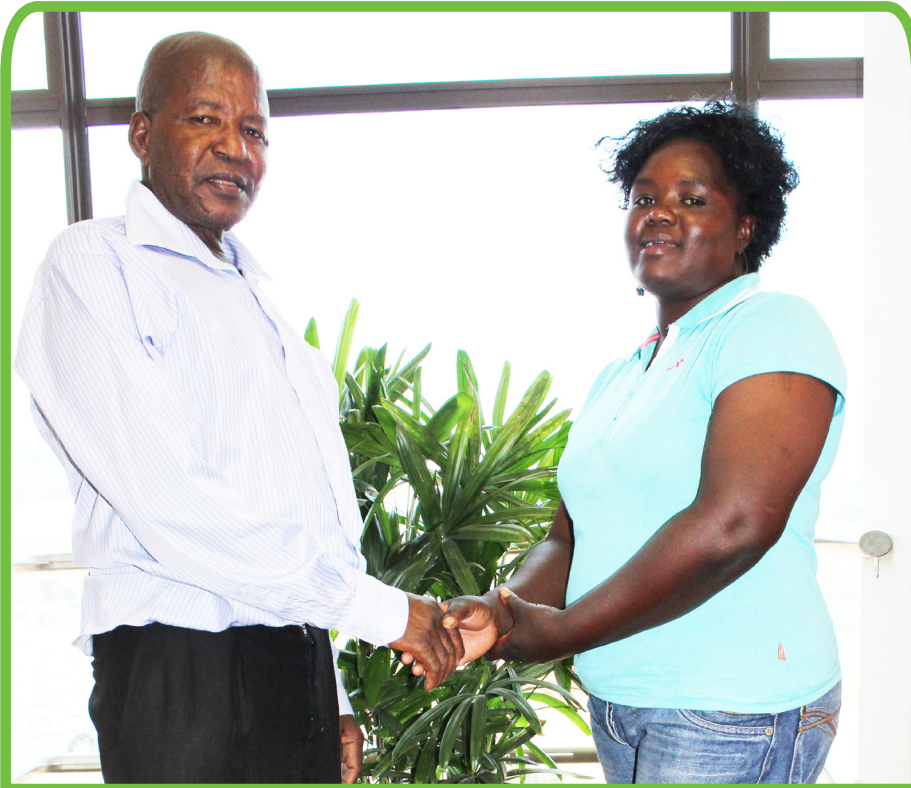


*Interior picture of Hlungwani's house*





## MUNICIPALITY REMOVES THE WORD “RURAL” FROM THE NAME “MUTOTI VILLAGE”



Vha Musanda Vho-Mphiriseni Gilbert Masikhwa shaking hands with ward 19 Councillor Fulufhelo Mutheiwana

The Thulamela local Municipality in conjunction with the Mutoti Royal Council under the Royal leadership of Vha Musanda Vho-Mphiriseni Gilbert Masikhwa will be seeking to turn the rural village located next to the great Nandoni dam from a deep remote area into an emerging township.

The Royal Council has recently sold a two hundred stands site where essential services such as water, roads and electricity will be provide before the actual building of residential houses by the dwellers.

In the true spirit of Vuk'u zenzele both the Municipality and the Royal Council have in their conjunction opened a Developmental trust that will help raise money that will meet the Municipality halfway in providing essential services to the community. So far, before all the stand are sold out, the trust has raised R28 000 that has been handed over to the Municipality on Monday 10th January 2012.

Speaking during the handover; Vha musanda Vho-Masikhwa said his Council valued development highly before any other thing.

**“We are advising and inviting more people, even those who are staying in other areas to buy stands at the new site. By doing so, we would be able to bring development at Ha - Mutoti.” He said.**

The ward 19 Councilor of the Municipality Fulufhelo Mutheiwana said her community was ecstatic and highly motivated to lead the struggle towards development.

## HOUSES FOR THE THULAMELA DESTITUATES AS SAFCOL PLAYS SANTA CLAUSE



From Left: Centre Chairperson Azwianewi Mutshinyalo, Thovhele Kennedy Tshivhase, Mayor Grace Mahosi and Deputy Minister of public enterprise Benedict Martins

Street kids from foreign countries and those from under privileged backgrounds in the Thulamela Municipality celebrated their christmas in advance on the 15th of December 2011 when the government owned South African Forestry Company (SAFCOL) built them new houses at the Life care centre; an orphanage home based in the Hope of Nation's church yard in Muledane outside Thohoyandou.

The houses that were built out of motar, bricks and timber and were handed over by the Deputy Minister of Public Enterprises Benedict Martins came at the right to replace military tents that have over the years been used to house over 30 homeless children from local villages and neighbouring countries such as Zimbabwe, Malawi, Namibia and many others.

The Life Care Centre was funded by Pastor Tshabuse of the Hope of Nations Ministries back in 2008 and has since then been home to homeless and hopeless children. Over the years it has accommodated children who mainly had given up on life but later changed with some of them even qualifying for university admission.

Speaking during the hand over event, Public Enterprise Deputy Minister Martins said what Safcol did was commendable. “It's laudable that Safcol and the Komatiland forests built these wonderful facilities that give these boys human dignity. They will from today enjoy the privilege of a normal home, as enjoyed by the majority of our children in SA.” He said.

The land on which the Life Care Centre is based, belongs to one of the Masingo Royal

families; the Tshivhase dynasty which at the ceremony was represented by its head Vho-Thovhela Kennedy Tshivhase.

Commenting on the relationship between government and traditional leadership, Martins there ought to be a healthy working relationship between the two institutions for the good of the public. “Government through its partnership with traditional leadership must use forests to create job opportunities for its people so that in turn, ordinary members of the public can see the need for forests in their vicinities.”

In his Royal response, Tshivhase said his family has always worked hand in hand with government to address the needs of his subjects. “We as traditional leaders need government to succeed in our projects and government also needs us to progress. So the Tshivhase dynasty has always been there for the ANC government when it comes to projects that uplift our people. We are the progressive force that shall work with government to preserve this land from the looters and submit it to the enrichment of our people.” He said.

To sum up all the talks of the day, the Mayor of the Thulamela Municipality Honourable Grace Mahosi had this to say; “The government has finally noticed the dood work of Pastor Tshabuse and the church. This goes down to show that the ANC led government cares. It shows that in the eyes of this government, all children are the same. And quite frankly, our government is biased towards the needs of children and people living with disability which is the greatest thing to do.

Centre Chaiperson Azwianewi Mutshinyalo told The Thulamela that the centre that receives about quota a million annual grant from the Department of Social Development has a bright future, basing it strengths on producing university bound orphans.





## CRIME PREVENTION CAMPAIGN IN THOHoyANDOU

The visibility of the ever famous blue police uniform beat even that of the bright colors of the summer flowers; and the bussing sound of the SAPS Brass Band's trumpets screamed higher than the melodies of the Vhembe birds as the Limpopo SAPS held its pre festive crime awareness campaign at the Thohoyandou shopping complex.

The campaign abruptly froze shopping as members of the public mainly the youths and the elders were hooked to messages of the day, let alone the dances by police officers as the men and women in blue used and abused the dance floor. Among the attendees were Major General Jackie Baloyi; the Thohoyandou Cluster Commander, Thohoyandou Station Commander Azwihangisi Mulaudzi and the Thulamela Municipality's Mayor Grace Mahosi. They all sang from the same hymn book as they talked of squeezing crime to its absolute dissipation in the complex and surrounding villages.

Major General Baloyi said the SAPS believed that the efficient and effective fight against crime can never be presented without the role of community members adding that the local municipality alike should play a major role in melting crime. "For us to put a definite stop to crime we need you as members of the community to play along because that is the only way we will put an end to crime. Similarly we call upon the Thulamela Local Municipality to also help us win this war against crime." He said.

Baloyi said house robberies are on the rise in Thohoyandou, adding that the free availability of alcohol in rural communities was a serious course of concern to the SAPS as that also deepened the ugly roots of crime. "We have been having discussions with the Thulamela Municipality



*Mayor Grace Mahosi on the left with Major General Baloyi on the right. Justice Thovhogi is at the back*

on the need to curb the free availability of alcohol and as a result we have resolved that we will minimize the awarding of beer trading licenses. This will go a long way in reducing crime in our vicinity". He said.

The Thulamela Municipality Mayor Grace Mahosi said the municipality had a constitutional prerogative to fight crime.

***"The National Crime Prevention Strategy and the white paper on crime prevention allow the municipality to act against crime and we will sure exercise that right."***

Mayor Mahosi also added that areas that witnessed a rise in crime rate were Muledane and

Tswinga just outside Thohoyandou.

The Thohoyandou SAPS Station Commander Brigadier Azwihangisi Mulaudzi told the public during the campaign that they have incorporated the business sector in their fight against crime. "All businesses in Thohoyandou have agreed to insert CCV cameras in their premises and this will help us uproot crime in our complex, allowing us more time to concentrate on crime fighting in our villages." She said.

Representing the Community Policing Forum in Thohoyandou was the acting Chairperson Justice Thovhogi who said he along with fellow community members would surely help the SAPS bring crime down to its invisible levels.

***"We will help the SAPS kill crime. We have had enough of this ugly feature of our lives."***

Concluded the elderly grey headed beard Thovhogi.



*Police officers marching through thohoyandou shopping centre during crime awareness campaign*



*Major General Baloyi Delivering his speech*





# NEW TRAFFIC VEHICLES FOR THULAMELA MUNICIPALITY

The Thulamela Municipality's Traffic Department intensified its visibility and improved its performance in its primary duty; which is to safeguard the lives of road users. This happened as a result of the unveiling of the municipality's 11 new vehicles on Monday the 24th October 2011.

The vehicles that came just two months before the much anticipated festive season left the arguably largest municipality in the Province with over 15 traffic vehicles. Over R3,5 Million was splashed on the luxury Chevrolet Cruze private vehicles, one 3 liter Isuzu Bakkie and a Towing truck.

Speaking at the unveiling event, Thulamela Community Service Manager Mmbulungeni Madi said

***“The Municipality realised the plight of its traffic department relating to the lack of facilities such as patrol vehicles and saw it necessary to make such facilities available.***

***Our traffic department had about five reliable vehicles which made it difficult for them to do their job and now we pur-***

***chased eleven more and we hope our colleagues will enjoy their job like never before”.***

Madi added that plans to buy more vehicles were still in the pipeline. “At the moment we have over 25 traffic officers and 16 vehicles and we feel more vehicles are still needed. We have plans to



MANAGER OF TRAFFIC SERVICE ON THE RIGHT THIVHULAWI MULAUDZI AND CHIEF TRAFFIC OFFICER THINANDAVHANAMUTHU MUNWANA ON THE LEFT. IN THE MIDDLE IS Mayor GRACE MAHOSI



TRAFFIC OFFICERS DANGLING KEYS



TRAFFIC OFFICERS POSING WITH THE CARS



MMBULUNGENI MADI POSING BEFORE THE NEW VEHICLES

purchase five more vehicles in the next financial year, hopefully by the end of the first half of next year we will be having those vehicles.” He promised.

Chief Traffic Officer at the Municipality Thinandavhanamuthu Munwana said he and his colleagues were delighted that their professional expectations will be highly fulfilled.

***“We are now very sure that our officers will be able to work efficiently well and won't have many problems. Those who do not abide by the laws while in our jurisdiction can be rest assured; if they don't get traffic fines on their entering, they will get them on their exit.”***

He joked.





# THULAMELA BIG WALK AGAINST HIV/AIDS



*Thulamela Community members walking from Matatshe to Makwarela Community Hall*

Dwellers of villages located in the Thulamela local municipality froze their plans for a day and absconded from their daily chores to turn the sword against the HIV / AIDS as they took part in a historic 10,8 km walk from Matatshe to Makwarela against the deadly pandemic on December 08th last year.

Following a strenuous but beneficial walk, talks and more talks against the disease started at the Makwarela Community Hall. Addressing the runners that included Khosi Vho-Ramugondo of the Tshivhase Royal Council, Acting Mayor of the Thulamela Municipality on the day, Mhlaba Shabangu said the municipality could not be left in the cold as the

whole country committed itself against the HIV/AIDS. "Through this project we seek to play our modest role in assisting our national government in its projects and campaigns to combat the spread of this pandemic. Every institution in South Africa should play its role to this effect and I am glad we already are playing our part as the Thulamela Municipality." Said Mhlaba.

He also talked about the alarming rate at which life expectancy in South Africa has been dropping and the death of the younger generation. "We need extra ordinary measures to reverse the situation at which young people form a majority of those that die on



*HIV/ Aids activist and Ambassador Mavis Madega addressing the crowd*

a daily basis due to this disease. We have also noticed an alarming dropping of life expectancy in our country and this cannot be accepted." He said this before he could conclude with strong message. "We have to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. We must reduce the rate of new infections."

Also present at the gathering was an HIV / AIDS activist Mavis Madega, who also lives with HIV / AIDS. Madega said "people must know their status so that they can live a healthy lifestyle, especially if infected. That way they will be able to know the type of food good enough for their bodies." She urged.

Khosi Vho Ramugondo declared the event as not just a walk but a war against HIV / AIDS. "This is not just a walk but a war of life against HIV/AIDS we have duties as leaders of the community. If we don't live positively we will destroy everything, from economics to politics, finance, social welfare and so on. He said.

## NO ROOM FOR ABUSERS IN THULAMELA

The honorable Thulamela Municipality Mayor, Grace Mahosi openly declared zero tolerance against the abuse of women and children during the recent 16 days of activism against the abuse of women and children. She said this during an event aimed at suppressing the abuse of women and children, held at the Phaphazela Full Gospel Church on the 6th of December 2011.

When delivering her speech, Mayor Grace Mahosi said "The Thulamela Municipality chose to take the event to Phaphazela as a response to high rate of teenage pregnancy and human rights abuse in the area." She said. The local Ximunwana secondary school is the most notorious in this regards. Last year alone, 26 learners were declared pregnant at the school.

Mahosi then hit the young audience with a challenge. "I challenge you to be an end to the tendency of Child grant dependency amongst yourselves." She said.

Also present at the event was the Child line Director in Limpopo Priscilla Mulaudzi who declared that Child line's main duty was "to



*Back Row: From left is Childline Director Mrs Priscilla Mulaudzi and Limpopo's First lady Mrs Mokgadi Mathale. In the middle is Mayor Grace Mahosi. On the right is Hosi Samuel Phaphazela and the school principal Mr Eric Baloyi.*

protect children throughout 365 days a year not for just 16 days. Mulaudzi also urged young people to make themselves available to the organization.

The supreme grace of the event was the arrival of the Limpopo Province's first lady Mrs. Mokgadi Mathale. Mathale was rep-

resenting First Lady's Trust which together with Childline Organization handed more than 30 blankets to the needy children. She advised youth to take into account the vitality of education as the most important source of human enrichment.





# MAYOR CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS NEW BORN



*From Left: Councillor Cllr Baloyi L.N, Speaker Cllr Maluleke S.G, Mayor Grace Mahosi handing gifts to one of the mothers, Maternity ward matron Tsakani Rose Mlambo is on the right*

With the whole world celebrating the divine birth of the man who is termed the father of Christianity Jesus Christ, the Mayor of the Thulamela Municipality Grace Mahosi marked the birth of the biblical chief cleric by celebrating with the brand new mothers of the six Christmas newborns that entered the world at the Malamulele Hospital on Christmas day.

The visit is part of the Thulamela calendar

where every year the Municipality visits one of its three hospitals; Tshildzini, Malamulele and Donald Frazer to celebrate the newest of lives born on Christmas day. Speaking during the visit Thulamela Municipality Mayor Mahosi said her office conducts these visits every year and their rotation meant that this year had to be Malamulele's turn.

Mahosi who was accompanied by the Speaker of the Thulamela Municipality's Council; Cllr. Maluleke S.G and the Local Councillor

Cllr. Baloyi L.N confirmed the giving mood of the day as she brought colorful gifts in the form of baby lotions, nappies, baby powders and many other accessories to welcome the future leaders of Thulamela. She advised the mothers of the newborn babies; "these children are a special gift to this earth as you brought them on earth the same day our lord Jesus Christ was born, so preserve and give them utmost love because in them we see future leaders of our Municipality." She said.

Hospital Superintendent Ronald Mabaso told the Thulamela Newsletter Team that the first of these six newborns was born at 12 O'clock mid night. He said his team was happy to be on duty to welcome the new arrivals. "We are celebrating with the families of these new arrivals and we follow the Mayor in telling these new mothers that children are a gift of God and that they should take a good care of them forever." He said.

The matron at the Malamulele Hospital's maternity ward who could not contain her visibly dominant joy Tsakani Rose Mlambo said every Christmas newborn was a blessing to her and her team. "We are happy we were there to ensure a healthy delivery of our newborns as we celebrate the life of our savior Jesus Christ." She said.

In their collective, the still healing yet joyous mothers were overtaken by too much joy to even utter a word. All they did was to smile at their beautiful gifts.

## THE THULAMELA'S FIRST TRAFFIC CIRCLE SETS TRAFFIC ON THE FLOW

With the Thohoyandou town maturing into a city and the rush hour traffic growing into a bumper to bumper ride, the Thulamela Municipality has replaced its traffic lights with its first ever traffic circle at the infamous JJ motors junction, linking Punda Maria road and the Mphephu drive.

The circle was launched on the 8th of December 2011 and was accompanied by the swerves and the screeching of tires by the Thulamela's traffic department's cars.

The circle which preceded the festive season came at the perfect time to reduce traffic jam in Thohoyandou and also make shopping an enjoyable experience for those who had bonuses to splash here and there.

Speaking at the launch, Thulamela Municipality's head of traffic Thilivhali Mulaudzi said the circle would ensure a swift flow of vehicles entering and leaving Thohoyandou.

Mulaudzi also highlighted the importance of the circle in modern days where global warming is fast becoming a household concern. "The traffic lights that were here also consumed a lot of electricity, meaning that we were contributing to the abuse of electricity thus enhancing global warming challenges and as you know traffic circles require no degree of power whatsoever so in



*Road Construction workers clearing the traffic circle*

a way we will reduce the usage of power for our traffic lights." He said.

Mulaudzi added that further studies could still be conducted to evaluate the viability of constructing more such circles around the municipality.

The constructor of the circle Martin Nervout of CivilCon Peli Kufelo Construction said his

company was delighted for being allowed to spearhead the historical project. He said the project was not the only end of their work in Thulamela. "If you check, this circle co-joins the Mphephu and Phundamaria roads but before June next year we would have added another ramp to form a direct road from the Thohoyandou CBD to the Muledane, Tswana and Maniini townships. All in all, this project will cost R72 Million.





## “BETTER EDUCATION FOR ALL” – THULAMELA PUTS THE SAYING INTO PRACTICE



**New public library building next to Thohoyandou stadium**

Thulamela Municipality is fast tracking the delivery of “better education for all” as it makes the building of libraries a winnable game. The semi metro Municipality that is also the biggest in the Limpopo Province will in due course open its main Thohoyandou library based next to the Thohoyandou stadium on the Phundamaria road.

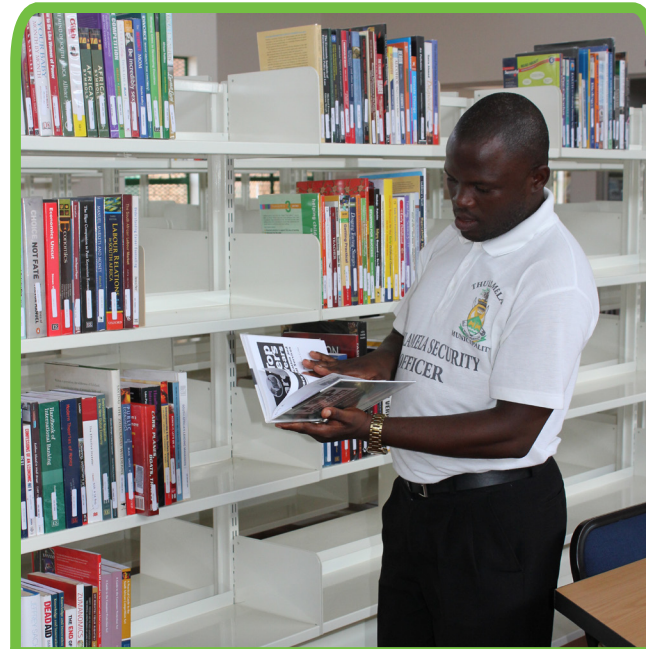
The R18 Million facility which includes a state of the

art grand stand like auditorium, children’s library, study cubicles and ablution blocks comes at the time when the whole Municipality relied on the famous Makwarela library. While speaking to the Head of Sports, Arts and Culture at the Municipality Ronald Makhadi said the Municipality’s aim was to built libraries next to sporting facilities.

**“In Norway, libraries are built next to sporting facilities so that immediately after school, a child goes to play sport and later go to study at the library and this is the model we are trying to adopt as a Municipality. That way, we will be able to remove children from the streets for good.”** Makhadi explained.

Another library will soon be visible in the rural Saselamani village home to xiTsonga music icon, Thomas Chauke. However Makhadi said the Municipality’s plan was

to build stadiums at all nodal points. “Plans on paper that we get to build libraries in such areas as Khubvi, Tshaulu, Malamulele and Tshikombani.” Makhadi concluded.



**Security officer going through the books**

## ANOTHER STATE OF THE ART SPORTS FACILITIES; IN MAKHUVHA



**Construction workers busy at Makhuvha Sporting Facility**

Thulamela Municipality has again proved that it means business as it construct another state of the art sporting facility at Makhuvha Village; east of Thohoyandou on the busy Pundamaria road. The R26 Million facility will include in 2000 capacity pavilion, changing rooms, ablution block, offices, boardroom, camping facilities, VIP suit, two media sections, Olympic track, basketball ground, netball ground and swimming pools will be bring much needed development in the rural village.

Site Manager at the facility Piet Van Der Berg of Mopi Con Dii Construction said the project

that was started last year in June “should have been completed last year but was delayed by persistent rainfall.” He said adding that the stadium alone would allow young people to free themselves from such destructive activities as crime and substance abuse.

Speaking to the Thulamela Ronald Makhadi; the Municipality’s head of sports, arts and culture said the facility that will be opened for public use in March “would be used to unearth fresh talents in all sporting codes and reduce crime and drugs and substance abuse.”



**Site manager at the facility, Piet Van Der Berg of Mopi Con Dii Construction with his dedicated team.**

Community liason officer at the project Godfrey Mashamba said; “As the community, we are ecstatic that our youth have got a place to relive themselves of boredom, our people will get much needed employment opportunities and also put our village on the map as one of the best places.” He flaunted.

Similar projects that are still on the pipeline will be built in Phiphidi and Vhurivhuri. Existing facilities that will be given a much needed facelift are Makonde, Gondeni and Saselamani. Makhadi said the facelift was crucial to equip the facilities with such accessories as pavilions, ablution blocks and change rooms.





# STATE OF THE ART STALLS FOR THE THOHOYANDOU STREET VENDORS

The trees of poverty may be drying up and the shrubs of growth could well be blossoming for the Thohoyandou based street vendors whose commitment to self upliftment have not gone unnoticed. Instead the Limpopo Department of Economic Development Environment and Tourism and the Thulamela Municipality gave these vendors a R2,5 Million worth of street vendor stalls in Thohoyandou.

The stalls were officially opened and welcomed by various uses and abuses of the dance floor by the vendors themselves at the Thohoyandou Town Hall on Thursday the 10th November 2011. The 28 stalls that were officially opened by the Thulamela Municipality Mayor Honourable Grace Mahosi and representatives of the Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism would lead to a reduced human traffic and a lot more organisation of the micro businesses in town.

Mahosi told the jubilant audience that “the key driver of economic growth in the forecast period have been identified as the strength of the local economy development.” She added that her Municipality like many other has been assigned a new responsibility to develop the local economy.

**“Government’s policy shift and the devolution of authority have clearly assigned municipalities a development mandate.”**



**Mayor Grace Mahosi with Rasebotsa cuts the ribbon**

General Manager of Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism Ashley Rasebotsa said; “the stalls were part of the 2009 Limpopo government plan to support micro enterprises to create jobs.”

Rasebotsa said his department was forming partnerships with local municipalities to identify areas that needed development in micro enterprises.

One of the jubilant vendors Mavis Maselesele said they were happy they got proper structures that had improved security and pure marketability.

**“This is really a good day for us as street vendors as we will be able to market our products. The good thing here is that our stock is safe and is a fresh of breath air to our business in terms of marketing.”** Said the 57 year old Maselesele who has over two decades of experience in sewing the venda traditional minwenda attire.

She added that she maintains her three children, two orphaned children and herself from the money she make from selling Minwenda to local and international customers from her stall in Thohoyandou.



**Ashley Rasebotsa, Mayor Grace Mahosi and Mavis Maselesele at Maselesele's stall.**





## THULAMELA MUNICIPALITY'S WARD 2 SOCCER CHALLENGE A MAJOR SUCCESS



**Ward 2 Councilor Engelina Ramatamba hand a trophy to Begwa Utd captain Mulanga Nemudzivhadi**

Over three thousand spectators braved the scorching heat and flocked the Mahagala Sports Ground at Ha-Lambani on 28 December 2011 to witness the finals of the Ward 2 Annual Soccer Challenge, and their expectations were met as sparks flew and excitement was galore as Lambani's Madandila Happy Boys and Begwa United Brothers battled it out for supremacy.

On their way to the final, Madandila Happy Boys had shrugged off a challenge from Duvhuledza Flamingoes whilst Begwa United Brothers had to dig deep to put one past Mubvumoni Eleven Arrows to book a date with Happy Boys, which meant the renewal of bitter rivalry that exists

between these perennial enemies. With Happy Boys enjoying a huge support from the crowd, those in attendance waited in anticipation to see if United Brothers could stand both the test of time and heat on the ground.

With the odds against them, Begwa United Brothers did the unthinkable by drawing first blood in the first half and with Happy Boys failing to respond, it was United Brothers again who found the back of the net in the second half, putting the game beyond the home side's reach. United was reduced to ten men after Rudzani Munyai was given his marching orders following a reckless challenge on Mulisa Sithaba of Happy Boys, but Begwa United Brothers stood their ground and after the referee's final whistle they were crowned champions of the Ward 2 Annual Soccer Challenge.



**Simon Mudzanani of Madandila Happy Boys was voted the Player of the Tournament and here he is photographed beating Nyambeni Munyai of Begwa United Brothers**

Talking after the tournament the Councilor of Ward 2 Cllr Engelina Ramatamba could not hide her excitement following the success of the well-organized tournament. She said she was happy her dream of uniting the youth and take them away from the streets was becoming a reality. "We organized this tournament to keep our youth busy and educate them about the dangers of using drugs, alcohol and unsafe sex and we want to reinstall morals into our youth", said Cllr Ramatamba K.A who is a member of the Moral Regeneration Movement (MRA) portfolio of Thulamela Municipality. She thanked all the sponsors who made the tournament a success. Powerade, Sunshine and Dengetenge Marketing were among the sponsors.

The chairperson of the tournament Mr David "Depa" Munyai echoed the words of the Councilor and promised an even better tournament next year. "Sports play a big role in keeping the communities together and we want to maintain the strong bond which exists between the municipality and the people", Munzhelele concluded.



**Rialivhuwa Mudzanani of Begwa United Brother dribbles past Madandila Happy Boys goalkeeper Lindelani Matshinga**



**Begwa United Brothers are the 2011 Ward 2 Soccer Challenge Champions**