



GTM Bulletin

Official Newsletter of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality, October - December 2018



**First Lady
donates again**

**Mayor hands over
title deeds**

**New wheels for
electricity**

**MDM honours
its stars**

**Mathale hands
over equipments**

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Vision

"A green prosperous and united municipality that provides quality services to all"

Mission

The Greater Tzaneen Municipality is committed to providing quality services to its community by:
Promoting social and economic development
Providing and maintaining sustainable services
Ensuring efficient and effective utilization of all available resources
Promoting environmental sustainability
Promoting effective stakeholder and community participation

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Editor:

Neville Ndlala.

Reporters:

Vutivi Makhubele, Patricia Muchabi & Tiny Ramatseba

Graphic Design & Layout:

Empire Dot creative

Physical Address:

No 38 Agatha Street,
Civic Centre Tzaneen, 0850,

Tel: +27 (0)15 307 8045

Fax: +27 (0)86 759 6454,

E-mail: Neville.ndlala@tzaneen.gov.za

Facebook: Greater Tzaneen Municipality

Twitter: @greatertzaneenmunicipality

Website: www.greatertzaneen.gov.za

Editorial Team



Neville Ndlala - Editor



Patricia Muchabi
Assistant
Communication officer



Vutivi Makhubele
Assistant
Communication officer



Tiny Ramasteba
Assistant
Communication officer

The year 2018 was a very busy year for the GTM, it was the year where we finally secured a full set of directors. In 2018 Thapelo Matlala (Municipal Manager), Palesa Makhubela (CFO), Aleck Nkuna (Community Services), and Benjamin Mathebula (PED) joined Walter Shibamba (Corporate Services) and Sam Lelope (Electrical) who were appointed in 2017.

In January, the Mayor and his fellow councillors visited several schools as part of the Back to School campaign before hosting the annual excellence awards in recognition of outstanding performance in matric by both learners and educators.

Also in January, the Mayor and the MEC for Transport, Makoma Makhurupetsi reopened the Nkowankowa Testing Station after it was closed in late 2017 after the arrest of testing officers accused of corruption.

In April, Tzaneen hosted the inaugural three days Tour de Limpopo, a cycling competition which attracted athletes from all over the world.

In the Mayor delivered the State of the Municipal Address (SOMA) in the packed Letaba Showground where he also announced the municipality's R1.3 billion annual budget for 2018/2019 financial year.

In 2018, the municipality secured runner-up in the Greenest Municipality Competition along with a R3 million cheque.

It was also in 2018, celebrating Mandela's 100th birthday that the municipality pulled a massive Mandela Day programme that saw officials and councillors hosting and participating in over 13 Mandela Day events in a single day.

In 2018 we finally completed three sporting facilities in Burgersdorp, Julesburg as well as the Runnymede Multi-Purpose Sports centre, it was

the year in which we open doors the then newly built Relela Community Hall.

In 2018 we also set-up a planning tribunal. In June, the Mayor launched the Anti-corruption hotline (0800446644).

The Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality, flanked by the Mayor launched major water projects in Thapane and Runnymede on July 6.

2018 was also the year in which an NYDA office was established in Tzaneen after the persuasion of the mayor.

In our previous edition, we profiled two officials of the municipality who are presidents of national bodies. Sam Rameetse is the President of Southern African Inter-Municipal Sports Association and Winnie Baloyi was elected the first woman President of the Institute of Municipal Administration of South Africa (IMASA).

It was not all rosy, in 2018 we suffered load shedding in June, November and December.

The municipality also experience some tragic events, 1st a baby died after falling into a borehole in Joppie Village and a woman was killed and her body thrown into a 10-meter man dug water fountain in Babanana Village.

Off course we had several protests, some marched to the civic centre while others protested in their communities. They blocked roads and burnt tires. 2018's protest hotspot undoubtedly goes to Nkowankowa Township, the town has been trashed a dozen times in one year.

New Wheels For Electricians



GTM officials led by the Mayor during the official handover of new LDVs for electricians

GTM electricians now have new wheels, the electricians who have been struggling with their old vehicles received their brand new vehicles from Mayor Maripe Mangena on the 14th of December 2018 at Letaba Show Grounds.

Mangena urged the electricians to take care of their new Nissan NP300 4x4 pick-up trucks. Handing over keys to the drivers, Mangena said the vehicles will help improve service delivery.

Roshuma Nefale, who joined the municipality in 2007 as an electrician said "The old bakkies have outlived their lifespan and were constantly breaking down" Nefale said the old bakkies couldn't handle the terrain they operate in. "We struggled to access mountainous areas and the farms and that's where most of the problems come from" Said Nefale Speaking at the handover Mangena said "These vehicles will contribute a lot in ensuring that service delivery reaches the people timeously, we believe our electricians will now be able to attend to all electricity crisis without any hindrances and respond urgently to all reported electrical queries. Mangena said that with the help and support of our communities he believes the municipality can still achieve a lot"

The handover ceremony attended by Executive committee members and the municipality's top management.



The five new NP300 bakkies



Mayor with Desmond Vuma



Cllr Edney Ntimbani with Oscar Seleise



Cllr Star Mbhalati hands over keys to Calvin Ramadzuwa



Cllr Thabo Maunatlala with Douglas Mhlaba



Cllr Thabo Maunatlala with Douglas Mhlaba

MDM honours its stars



The Stars of Mopani with their Mayors and Traditional Leaders



Mayor of Giyani, Cllr. Basani Shibambu and Mayor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality Cllr. Maripe Mangena hand over a cheque to gospel artist Rudolph Mabasa



Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale, hands over a cheque, a trophy and certificate to King Monada



Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale with The Living Rock gospel music group



Mayor of Giyani, Basani Shibambu and Mayor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality Cllr. Maripe Mangena with music duo CK and Janisto

Several music stars emerging from Mopani District graced Karibu Leisure Resort in Tzaneen to be acknowledged by the District Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale who invited them for lunch. Rakgoale said that "Mopani District is blessed with so much talent and the district wants to appreciate them and encourage them to push even higher". The stars who were invited include hit maker King Monada who attracted massive attention for his hit song Malwede and others. The executive Mayor said that she was proud of his achievement and for putting the district on the map, she also advised Monada to be "original and stay humble."

Master KG was also one of the stars who received a cheque of R10 000 .00 and a trophy from the Executive Mayor, the young artist wowed the attendants with



Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale with Pastor Lungi Ndala and his wife



Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale with Gospel Artist Kenny Shivambu of Go-Explo with his wife

his performance and said "I recently received an award in Ghana for this song" referring to his party hit song skeleton move that also made waves in the media. Renowned pastor Elijah Maswanganyi gave a powerful motivational speech to motivate the stars, Maswanganyi who has travelled all over the world preaching and motivating people said it was a privilege for him to be attending this event at home instead of the other high profile events that he is usually committed "the young people in this hall are full of potential and i believe that they will impact the globe", he said. The Mayor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality Maripe Mangena was also present to dine and dance with the stars, in his words of encouragement he cheered and encouraged them to "continue shining their light". Also present was the Mayor of Greater Giyani Municipality Basani Shivambu and councillors from Mopani District and the local municipalities.

It was a day to remember for most, especially the stars of the day who were among others Janisto and CK, Pastor Lungile Ndala, Pastor Rudolph Mabaso, Kenny Shivambu, and Banyana banyana star Lebogang Ramalepe.



Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale hands over a cheque to Banyana Banyana defender Lebogang Ramalepe

GTM leaders visit King Monada



Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale, hands over a cheque, a trophy and certificate to King Monada

Local and well known artist King Monada was honoured by the Mayor, Speaker and Chief whip of the Greater Tzaneen municipality on the 14th of December 2018 at Mokgoloboto village. The visit was meant to congratulate him for putting Tzaneen on the map. "We are very proud of you man, who could have thought a young boy from a rural village of Mokgoloboto will one day be seen on TV and heard on national radios stations? Be a role model to your

peers and always motivate other young stars to work towards reaching their goals and search for their talents". This were the words of the Mayor during the visit. The Mayor also advised the artist not to get involved into drugs because most artists he knows lost their talents and dignity because of drugs, be disciplined and allow your manager to guide you, don't be fooled by people to say he is not

good enough to be your manager, you are coming from far with him and continue to respect him" he concluded.

According to his manager Albert Makwela "the young artist grew up with passion in music and his mother played a very big role in ensuring that he become the man he is today. It was not an easy journey for him but he finally made it and we are gathered here today to congratulate him". "ke leboga support ya lena ba maspala for taking your time to come to my studio and see the work that I do every day. E yang pele le re supporte" said King Monada.



Councillors talk to King Monada and his manager Albert Makwela who is also a councillor in the GTM

Winnie Becomes Madam President



Winnie Baloyi is the President of IMASA

In our previous edition of the GTM Bulletin we profiled Winnie Baloyi, GTM Manager for Records and Administration, in her profile she opened up about her professional journey and at the time she served as Deputy President for IMASA, we recently caught up with her again after having learned that she was recently elected as the President of IMASA. Baloyi was elected as the first black female President for IMASA during the IMASA 20th Annual General meeting and Conference

held from 16-19 October 2018 in George, Western Cape.

Speaking to us about her new appointment Baloyi says "I am overwhelmed by the confidence members have in me to lead them in this position of responsibility. At the same time, I am challenged by expectations to deliver and make a difference in the Institute."

Her key responsibilities as president will be presiding over the National Management Committee meeting and over the Annual General meeting, she is also expected to attend to branch meetings and activities as per invitation. Her role will see her representing the Institute at the International Institute partnered with IMASA and communicating with all members and NMC members from time to time.

Baloyi admits that the position has dramatically changed her both professionally and

on a personal level "I have been growing throughout my career path and that made me realize that one cannot limit herself to opportunities that will make you grow as an individual. I started from humble beginnings and that makes me to stay humble. Success can only come with much of discipline, ready to learn and open minded." Said Baloyi.

In her new position as president of IMASA Baloyi says her biggest achievement will be re-activating the branches that are no longer functional, foster relationship with other professional bodies that have the same aspirations with IMASA and grow the Institute with members that are willing to learn and be leaders of tomorrow. "I see myself as part of "I see myself as part of building the IMASA legacy, and it will please me if I can impact others to follow suit," she concludes.

GTM wins R3 million in Greenest Competition



Mayor Maripe Mangena flanked by EXCO members with the R3 million cheque won in the GMC

The Greater Tzaneen Municipality won R3 million in prize money at the 10th Greenest Municipality Competition (GMC) prize giving ceremony held at Southern Sun, Elangeni, Durban, Kwazulu-Natal on 14 August 2018. The prize is for coming second in the local municipality category. GTM which has won the first prize several time lost to Swartland Municipality which took the R3.5 million prize money. The award was handed over by the Deputy Minister for Environmental Affairs, Barbara Thompson and received on

behalf of the municipality by Councilor Lettie Hlangwane, a member of the municipality's Executive Committee and the Head of the Environment, Health and Social portfolio. She was in the company of Maggie Machumele, the manager for Environmental Health in the municipality.

The competition started as the Cleanest Town Competition (CTC) with the primary focus being the implementation of the National Waste Management Strategy, however, despite its success, developments within the green movement necessitated the modification of the concept. The new concept focuses on five key areas being waste management, energy efficiency/conservation; landscaping, beautification and tree planting; public consultation and empowerment as well as leadership and institutional arrangements.

GTM is building more roads

Greater Tzaneen Municipality continues to make positive strides towards the acceleration of service delivery to its citizens. In the same breath, it is acknowledged that a number of communities are faced with challenges which mainly includes water and access roads. The challenges have been raised during the IDP process plan while the municipality was in consultation with the communities.

The GTM did not only make note of the challenges but made necessary efforts to address some of them depending on availability of budget and grants. The community of Lenyenye cited the access road from Lenyenye to Khujwana as one of their priority needs, as a result, R35 Million was budgeted for the upgrade of the road. The project was awarded to Selby construc-

tion and Ryntex consulting engineers to oversee the construction of the 5.8 Kilometre road that will benefit both the communities of Lenyenye and Khujwana, motorists will also enjoy easy and comfortable access which they previously complained they could not.

The project which commenced on the 17th of October 2018 is anticipated to be completed in May 2020. Other projects underway include the upgrade of Moruji to Maswi from gravel to tar. The construction work is near completion and is currently at 89%.

In October 2018, Greater Tzaneen Municipality has handed over the construction site of Nkowankowa D access road. The project will see 1.5km of road paved with interlocking paving bricks with storm water control.

The road has been a cause for concern for many years, residents complained about the street which made it impossible for motorists to drive through especially when it rains. Makasana Construction is responsible for the construction of the road which is budgeted for 8.7 Million.



Work to upgrade some streets has begun in Nkowankowa

Burgersdorp Stadium revamp complete



Entrance with ticket office



Tennis court and basketball court



The artificial soccer pitch



Water storage



The new grandstand takes 500 people



The guard room



The facility also has a gravel soccer field



Ablution facilities and dressing rooms



The facility is also paved

In an earlier edition of the GTM Bulletin Matlala said that project will encompass the construction of a palisade fence covering 75 000 square meters and a concrete pavilion to accommodate at least 500 spectators. The scope of work also incorporated the relocation of the “existing” artificial pitch which was installed as part of the 2010 FIFA world cup legacy project which saw similar artificial pitches installed in all 52 SAFA regions. With the upgrade the stadium now boast a ticket booth and an entrance with turnstiles to help with crowd control especially in events with entrance fees. Also in the stadium precinct are courts for netball, volleyball and basket ball. With the area facing water scarcity, a water storage tank with a water pump has been installed to

ensure that the stadium functions at all times especially its ablution facilities. Matlala said that there is a gravel football ground just adjacent to the main ground to allow the stadium to host more games as the stadium was in demand before the upgrade. Mayor Maripe Mangena who launched the project in 2017 said the facility will go a long way in enhancing the municipality sports development efforts. Mangena said that he believes that through sports residents of the municipality will be able to build cohesion. He said that two other stadiums built in the rural areas and soon to be opened are fruits of the municipality’s commitment to rural development. The news of the stadium completion was welcomed by most people. Rodney Mushwana said “Thanks, Indeed

this is good news for us basketball players, our prayers have been answered after so many years”.

Another happy GTM resident Percy Mushwana congratulated the municipality “Nice innovation greater Tzaneen, that’s sports development at its best”.

Hosi N'wamitwa II 10 Year anniversary Gala Dinner

The Valoyi Royal House hosted a Gala Dinner to celebrate Hosi N'wamitwa on the last day of Women's Month.



Hosi N'wamitwa II with her daughter Princess Tsakani



Hosi Mlungisi Ntsan'wisi of Majeje in Ba-Phalaborwa

The pre-N'wamitwa Day Gala Dinner held at Khalanga Royal Lodge on the night of August 31st was a night of glitz and glamour graced by politicians, business people, technocrats, royalty and academics.

Amongst those in attendance was former reserve bank Tito Mboweni, Elizabeth Thabethe (Deputy Minister for Tourism) Limpopo MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development and ANC Limpopo Deputy Secretary Basikopo Makamu, Ba-Phalaborwa Mayor and Mopani ANC Chairperson Pule Shai. Premier Soccer League Football club owner David Thidiela, Musician Penny Penny, Professor Nkondo and several Traditional leaders from all over the province.

Hosi N'wamitwa II sat throughout the night listening to speaker after speaker each one showering her with praise. N'wamitwa II was lauded for her developmental initiatives which include amongst others Xitsavi Youth Center, Khalanga Royal Lodge and N'wamitwa cultural village.

In the 2000s N'wamitwa fought a bruising battle to be recognised as the Chief of the N'wamitwa tribe against Sidwell N'wamitwa who argued that a woman could not lead by tradition. After initially losing in the lower courts, N'wamitwa II won in the constitutional court bringing the matter to its finality.

Guests were served a three course meal and were entertained by Limpopo music group Muso. The programme was run by seasoned veteran radio presenter Sydney Baloyi and Amukelani Shilubane who is part of the N'wamitwa family. Guests wore black with a touch of gold.



MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Basikopo Makamu and Ba-Phalaborwa Mayor Pule Shai



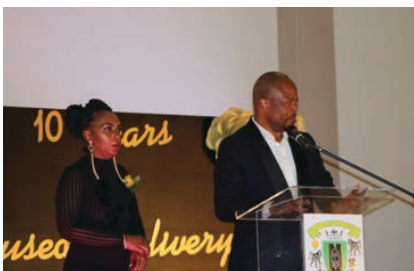
GTM Councillors Lettie Hlangwane and Sannie Tiba with a friend



Finance Minister Tito Mboweni proposing a toast



Hosi N'wamitwa flanked by her sister and daughter



Programme Directors Sydney Baloyi and Amukelani Shilubane



Councillor Star Mbhalati and Tito Mboweni

N'wamitwa Day 2018 Gala Dinner



N'wamitwa Day

Just over 1000 people descended to the grounds of the Vatsonga Cultural Village to celebrate 10 years of service delivery in the N'wamitwa area.

Since Hosi Tinyiko Lwandlamuni Philia Nwamitwa II ascended the throne in 2008, there has been massive developments at Runnymede cluster (Nwamitwa). The developments include the building of a well-known Khalanga Royal lodge which was funded an amount of R20 Million by the department of Tourism. The lodge consists of 20 chalets and a conference hall accommodating about 1500 people. The construction of the lodge brought joy to residents of Nwamitwa and the surrounding villages since it created a job opportunity. The Lodge has been in operation since 2015.

During the sod turning ceremony in April 2018, The Former Deputy Minister of Sports Arts and Culture Joe Phaahla made an official announcement of the new development (Valoyi Vatsonga cultural village) in Nwamitwa. Valoyi Vatsonga cultural village was completed in 2016 and costs R 11 Million. The project was officially opened on the 06th of October 2016. The village showcase all the vatsonga cultural activities.

Xitsavi Youth Centre was established in 2009 by Valoyi tribal authority with the aim of enhancing social and economic well-being of poor communities in particular the youth of Nwamitwa communities. The centre provides various training skills and has a food security programme that includes a vegetable garden. One of



A group of dancers entertained the crowd



Speaker of Parliament Baleka Mbete gave the keynote address



Deputy Minister of COGTA Andries Nel also addressed the gathering



Deputy Minister of Tourism Elizabeth Thabethe giving her speech



Deputy Minister of small business development Cassel Mathale delivering a speech



Guests listen to speakers during N'wamitwa day

the beneficiaries of Xitsavi food security programme Mphemphu Mtsenga said "I was sick for a very long time but after joining Xitsavi vegetable garden things were never the same, now I am able to work with my own hands and I eat healthy to maintain my health status".

Under the leadership of Hosi Nwamitwa II, Nwamitwa has seen a multiple developments which also includes the multimillion rans multi-purpose government centre and a tar road that connects a lot of villages within Runnymede cluster. INKosikazi Mahlauli the Deputy Chairperson of National House of Traditional Leaders said during the celebration "the developments in Nwamitwa area displays the strong leadership skills of Hosi Nwamitwa".

The Speaker of Parliament Baleka Mbete said "after winning the battle Hosi was not interested in abusing government funds but ensuring that the youth and communities of Nwamitwa benefit from the government programmes they are entitled to .

The event was blessed by the presence of Jerry Ndou MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs, Deputy Minister for small business

and development Cassel Mathale, Deputy Minister of Tourism Elizabeth Thabethe, Deputy Minister of COGTA Andries Nel, and the Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality Nkareng Rakgoale. Dr Thomas Chauke well known of winning the best Xitsonga music awards was the main entertainer of the event .

Hosi Nwamitwa II is the first female Hosi of the Valoyi tribe and one of the few women among South Africa's senior traditional leaders. In 2008 after six years of battle she finally ascended her throne. She went through a battle with her cousin and the case was escalated to the South Africa's top court.

Hosi Nwamitwa II has served four terms as an ANC MP



Councillor Cassius Machimana welcomes the team from Phelophepha Health Train in Tzaneen on Saturday, 7 July 2018. With him is Councillor Given Malatji, Llenette Flusk (Train Manager) and Molefe Mokone (project Manager). The train was stationed in Tzaneen from 9 July to 20 July 2018 offering free



Mayor Maripe Mangena motivated learners at Mahlane High School on 18 October 2018, Mangena was there as part of his outreach to schools as they embark on their final year examination. Mangena who was in the company of ward 34 Councillor and member of the Executive Committee Margaret Letsoalo donated scientific calculators to 30 learners at the school.



Mayor Maripe Mangena is seen here with Banyana Banyana players, Noko Matloou and Lebogang Ramalepe with Democratic Alliance's Desiree Van Der Walt at Nkownkown Stadium where Vakhegula Vakhegula hosted various teams in a game of football.



Corporate Services official hosted small surprise birthday celebration for Director Walter Shibamba at the HR Auditorium on 27 July 2018



On the 25th of October 2018 the Greater Tzaneen municipality was awarded the Limpopo Provincial Govan Mbeki Award at The Ranch Polokwane. From left to right is Simon Kgofelo, Peter Modika, Masingaita Makumbila, Handswell Phakula, Bianca Mashile and Wiseman Mabunda,



Mayor Maripe Mangena and Mopani District Executive Mayor attends the funeral of a five year old boy who fell into a borehole pipe in Joppie Village. The body of the child was recovered two days later after a rescue operation led by the Mopani District Municipality

Greater tzoneen Municipality



Mayor Maripe Mangena treated members of the media to a scrumptious breakfast at Crawdaddy's Restaurant in Tzaneen on 19 September 2018 as part of his regular interaction with municipal stakeholders.



Former Speaker of Council Percy Phetole Machete was sworn in as a Councillor during a council sitting held on 2 November 2018 by Magistrate. Council Speaker Dikeledi Mmetle looks on as the Magistrate reads the oath. Machete replaced Mpho Kgatla who resigned as PR councillor.



Cosatu brought its provincial march to the doors of Greater Tzaneen Municipality on 15 October 2018



Minister of Police Bheki Cele and Minister of Health Aaron Motsoaledi visited Letaba Hospital on 23 November 2018 after three doctors were attacked in their hospital residence. Two doctors were shot but survived the shooting and the third doctor was attacked with a crowbar. The ministers were accompanied by the MEC for Health Dr Phophi Ramathuba, Mopani Executive Mayor Nkakareng Rakgoale and Mayor Maripe Mangena.



The municipality conducted a fire drill on 23 November 2018 to test its readiness in an event the building was gutted. The operation involved the fire department, disaster management, traffic as well as SAPS.

GTM women advised to look after themselves

Medical doctor advice GTM women to go for regular check-ups for early detection of disease while a business woman urge them to fully exploit their talents.



GTM women employees during the health walk



Business Woman Nyeleti Mushwana addressing GTM women



GTM women pay attention to one of the speakers



GTM officials Mavis, Hosana and Helen also joined the walk

On Friday 17 August 2018 Greater Tzaneen Municipality women employees converged at the Tzaneen public swimming pool as part of the employee wellness programme which is aimed at promoting physical, mental and psychological health of municipal staff. During the event the ladies were addressed by a medical doctor and a successful entrepreneur. In her address, Dr Ntshuxeko Mhlari, from Van Velden Hospital in Tzaneen advocated for prevention rather than cure. She said women "should undergo regular check-ups to detect sickness such as cancer and HIV."

She said women must know their bodies to detect any changes. "If there are unfamiliar changes with your bodies seek help immediately" said Dr Mhlari,

Statistics show that 14 million people worldwide are told "you have cancer" every year and in South Africa 100 000 people are diagnosed with cancer every year. Research show that environmental and lifestyle factors such as smoking, diet and lack of exercise cause 90% of all cancer and only 6 out of 10 cancer patients survive. Dr Mhlari urged women to stand up to women abuse and also protect their children from abuse by their partners. She said some women simply watch their children go through physical and sexual abuse because they are financially dependent on the man.

In her address Nyeleti Mushwana, founder and owner of Karibu Leisure Resort encouraged women to identify their talents and take advantage of them. Nyeleti loved

cooking pap as a young girl and says that's how it "all started". "I used what I was good at to build my career, you can also do it." Said Nyeleti. She said women can make it in life without depending on someone else.

Councillor Margaret Letsoalo who was standing in for the mayor expressed gratitude on behalf of council for the "good work" done by women in the municipality. She also lauded the role of women in society and home saying "there is a difference between a home with a woman and a home without a woman." She said council was very proud of all women employees.

The day began with a march from the civic centre through the central business district and ended at the pool.

Council supports food vendors



Chief Whip Councillor Cromwell Nhem and fellow councillors enjoying lunch



Director of Corporate Services Walter Shibamba.



Councillors Klaas Lepulane and Gezani Makhubele



Mayor Mangena with fellow councillors and traditional leaders



Councillors Thandy Mpyenyana and Emma Ngobeni



Councillors Thabo Maunatlala and Martha Mohale



Councillor Mavis Mapitja with councillor Kedibone Rapatsa



Councillors Onnica Raolane, Mpho Kgatla and Florah Kgafane



Councillors enjoying lunch at the Tzaneen Crossing Taxi Rank

GTM councilors have not only been preaching small business support, but they have also been supporting them practically. After council sitting on the 31st of July 2018 GTM Councillors proceeded to the Tzaneen Crossing taxi rank next to for lunch. About 15 food stalls were occupied with Councillors including the Mayor, the Chief Whip, EXCO Members and PR councillors enjoying their lunch. The councilors feasted on pap, chicken, beef, fish, mogodu, morogo and cabbage.

Mayor Mangena said it was important for the municipality support small informal businesses not just in words but through the actual buying of their products and services. Mangena praised the food vendors for not sitting on their laurels and waiting for government hand-outs. He said small businesses played a huge role in the economy and that most people who can't afford food in fancy restaurants had a more affordable alternative in food vendors.

The municipality has started an initiative to take its councillors and officials from time to time to eat at small businesses such as street vendors, chisa nyamas as well as township/rural food establishment" This, according to Freddie Rammallo, the Manager for Local Economic Development in the municipality is putting a spotlight on SMMEs and ordinary people are following in the footsteps of their leaders in supporting these businesses.

Agatha cemetery gets a facelift



Work to upgrade the Agatha Cemetery next to Flora Park has begun and is expected to be concluded soon. The project incorporates the construction of a drainage system to control soil erosion as well as grabbing and clearing to make provision for new graves.

A river stream exists between the area currently used for burial and the new site where new graves will be located, this

makes it impossible to access the new site. As part of the upgrade, a 2.4m x 1.8m low-level bridge will be built across the river stream to allow mourners and families access to the new site. The new gravesite will cover 1.7 hectares.

Mayor Maripe Mangena said that the project will address numerous complaints raised by residents in relation to the state of the cemetery and the fact that the commen-



tary has reached its capacity. The project will cost R3.5 million inclusive of professional fees. Moepeng Trading 40 cc was appointed as the contractor.

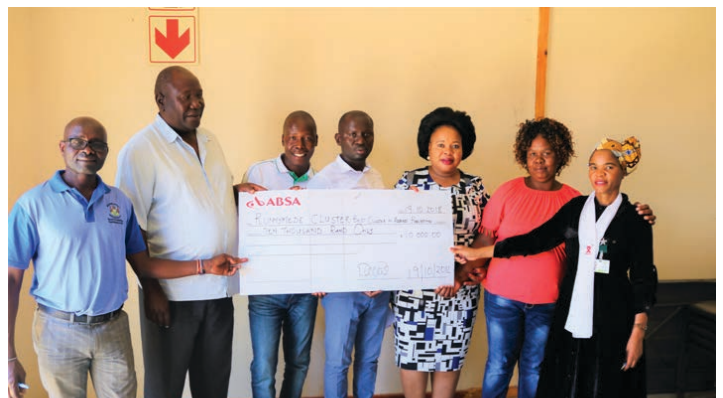
Cemeteries in Nkowankowa and Lenyenye have also reached their capacities. The municipality has established a new cemetery to cater for Lenyenye. In Nkowankowa there is still a legal dispute on the land earmarked for the extension of the cemetery. The matter is still before the courts.

Runnymede wins address harvesting race

Council Speaker Dikeledi Mmetle on Friday, 19 October 2018 handed over a R10 000 cheque to the ward committees of Runnymede cluster for harvesting the most addresses in the "Address Harvesting Programme" of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC).

GTM has been working on the IEC campaign to get physical addresses for voters in preparation for the 2019 general election. The constitutional court ruled in 2016 that the voters roll should contain addresses of voters and gave the IEC 18 months to fix the problem.

Runnymede cluster which is made of 7 wards (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12 & 13) has visited 1636 voters in three weeks. All four clusters which include Lesedi, Relela and Bulamahlo visited 6014 voters.



From left to right: Councillor Edward Ngobeni, Cllr Edney Ntimbani, Cllr Malesela Mafokwane, Cllr Jele Ngobeni, Council Speaker Dikeledi Mmetle, Cllr Emma Ngobeni, Cllr Mavis Mapitja

Mayor hands title deeds to residents



Mayor Maripe Mangena with recipients of title deeds at Lenyenye Community Hall

More than 200 residents of Lenyenye gathered at Lenyenye Community Hall on Friday the 7th of September 2018 to witness the handing over of title deeds to residents of Lenyenye. Mayor of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality, Councillor Maripe Mangena handed over 42 title deeds to beneficiaries. Amongst the 42 recipients were elderly men and women who have stayed in their properties for decades without any proof of ownership. Other beneficiaries were children whose parents have long passed on.

Morongwa Anna Thokwe, one of the beneficiaries said "I am very happy because I have received my title deed today, I was wondering when I was going to get it. From today I will sleep peacefully knowing that I have the relevant papers for my house and no one will come and claim it".

Most beneficiaries were filled with joy and couldn't conceal their excitement as they

danced and ululated. During his address, Mayor Mangena said that property ownership brought dignity to South Africans, especially blacks who have long been denied ownership through racist apartheid legislation.

Delivering his regular housing consumer lessons, Benjamin Mathebula, the Director for Planning and Economic Development in the GTM warned residents from engaging in the unlawful sale of property.

Mathebula urged to those seeking to purchase properties to verify ownership with the municipality before making any payments.

He told the audience that ownership is only when the property is transferred into the buyer's name and there is a title deed as proof. He also warned prospective home buyers never to give money directly to the seller but only through lawyers.

Meanwhile, Ward Councillor for Ward 19,

Homegirl Zandamela handed over title deeds to 38 families from Nkowankowa Section A during "Housing Consumer Education" at Nkowankowa Community Hall on the 2nd of November 2018

Doreen Popela said "the residents of Lenyenye ext 3, 4 and 5 must be patient, as they will also get their title deeds in due course. They will be informed as to when to apply for the title deeds as soon as the issue of the proclamation of land has been finalized".

490 title deeds for Dan Ext 2 were also received and 428 were collected/ distributed to the owners. And 62 are outstanding. There is a challenge of capturing of Identity documents, exchange of sites, and some owners not found.

200 title deeds for Nkowankowa C were available and 188 were distributed/ collected and 12 are still in the municipal offices.

GTM library hosts reading day



Storytellers, children and library staff members at Mulati Library during the storytelling event.

The Greater Tzaneen Municipality hosted a story-telling session for children at Mulati Library in Mulati village on Saturday 08 September 2018. The event was attended by story-tellers from India, Swaziland, Mpumalanga and Limpopo who entertained children throughout the day. The event was a joint initiative between UNISA and the GTM.

The highlight of the day was when international storyteller Deepa Kiran from India told a wonderful story in English and Cliff

Lambane, a teacher from Hudson Ntsan'wisi Senior Secondary School in Nkowankowa, translated the story into Xitsonga, breaking the language barrier, allowing even the smallest child and the elderly in the audience to understand and enjoy the performance. The event proved that stories are universal and enjoyable by everyone. The event was organized to commemorate the world literacy day.

First lady donates again



The First Lady with schoolgirls that received sanitary towels at Pheerehla Maake High School

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Greater Tzaneen Municipality's first lady's charity drive has seen her travel the length and breadth of the municipality reaching out to the economically disadvantaged. Mrs. Mangena's charity initiatives include the donation of scientific calculators and sanitary towels to township and rural schools.

On Thursday, 18 October 2018, GTM's first lady visited three high school schools where she donated a combined 1706 packets of sanitary towels and 97 scientific calculators.

In Pheerehla Maake High school the first lady donated sanitary towels to 568 learners before heading to Maloti High

school and Keleketse High School where she donated 538 and 600 sanitary towels respectively. She also donated 37 calculators at Maloti and 60 calculators at Keleketse. The first lady was in the company of Miss Teen Limpopo, Munene Dzavana who gave a motivational talk in all three schools.

Mayor braais for winning cops



Mayor Mangena with the SAPS winners at JOC next to Tzaneen Dam

On 19 October 2018, Mayor Maripe Mangena and General Mathebula, the head of the Tzaneen SAPS Cluster held a celebratory braai for the six recipients of the Provincial SAPS awards. Tzaneen police Station was crown the "Best Station of the Year"

Here is a list of all the winners: Seagent Moyana was crowned the "Best Vispol Employee of the Year" Seagent Muhlarhi got the 2nd runner-up for "Best Vispol Employee of the Year"

Constable KE Mulungwa got 2nd Runner-up Detective Employee of

the Year

Best Disabled Person of the Year went to Mdaka M.

1st Runner Up community policing forum member of the year went to Kabelo Machete, Kabelo is also a member of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality's Community Safety Forum which won the Gold in the Premier's Excellence Awards last year.

From GTM to Italy for EPWP



Miyelani Shandlale in Italy.

What is your role and position in the GTM and how were you selected to go to Italy?

I'm an EPWP Officer under Project Management Unit in the Engineering Services Department. I Co-ordinate EPWP for the municipality. I believe that it was through hard work and commitment that I was selected to attend the Course called Learning Forum on innovation in Public investment and employment Programme.

How did you feel when you heard that you were selected to go to Italy?

I was overwhelmed with joy, I said to myself "Miyelani you are going to Europe".

When did you leave for Italy and how long did you stay?

I left South Africa on the 22nd of September 2018. We boarded at O.R international airport

at 6pm. We arrived in Paris on the 23rd of September at 5am. We had to connect a plane to Italy at around 2pm, by 3h30pm we were in Italy. I stayed there for 2 weeks and returned to South Africa on the 7th of October 2018.

What are some of the most remarkable landmarks that you got to see during your stay?

We got to visit Milan city of all fashions, Monte-Carlo, I saw where Monte Casino in Gauteng originates from and I got to see where Formula one is situated and actually watched them practise. We also went to Juventus stadium in Turin where Cristiano Ronaldo plays "my favourite player" and San Siro Stadium where Milan play. Their stadiums have their respective shops inside the stadium where you can buy their jerseys/attires before you go and watch them play. We went to Nice, a big factory where they manufacture perfumes. Went to Paris as well, when we were travelling to Paris we were surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea and the breeze was out of this world. All in all I toured Europe.

What valuable lesson did you grasp from this tour?

EPWP is implemented in most of the Countries in the World. Though most of the countries call it Public Employment Programme "PEP". I have learned that we have to create more Labour

intensive jobs for all sectors of EPWP which are infrastructure, Environment and culture, Social and non-state sector for protection of communities living in poverty. Beneficiaries in all projects should be skilled by all means possible, by doing that you will be creating an exit strategy for beneficiaries. The end product/Quality of the work should never be comprised.

How has the experience affected you as professionally and as a person?

It made me appreciate my work even more, it must always be in the back of my mind that the job I do alleviate peoples poverty and I must never take it for granted. To be more health conscious on what I eat especially on salt, oil and red meat. I visited places that in my wildest dream I never thought I would. I'm more appreciative towards certain things which didn't matter to me before. I will cherish and forever be indebted to have been chosen to go there and represent my institution. My favourite food is pasta so being in Italy I had to experience pastas from where it originates. Whenever I got a chance I ate all different pastas and I felt amused in all occasions. I am favoured, I am blessed.

Mathale hands over equipment

The Deputy Minister of Small Business Development Cassel Mathale handed over equipment to 110 Mopani district informal traders at Letaba Showground on the 17th of September 2018. The equipment ranged from fridges, sewing machines, water boiling urns, gas stoves, and chaffing dishes.

"As a government we are expected to create an enabling environment for small businesses including informal and micro enterprises as well as cooperatives to thrive through its enterprise development instruments. We believe the equipment you will receive today will bring change in your businesses since you will be having proper materials" said the Deputy Minister.

The Mayor Maripe Mangena said "we really appreciate the job well done by our state-owned entities, the support you give to our SMME's is recognised, continue with the good work and help our people to draft

business plans and also register their businesses. We urge everyone to be responsible, united and work hard to improve the development of our economy". Magreth Mason a recipient from Lenyenye specializing in sewing said "I would like to thank SEDA for the effort made in ensuring that we get equipment. After 3 years of waiting, we are finally receiving our equipment. Thank you very much, Deputy Minister, for remembering us".

Sello Lepedi who owns a restaurant in Phalaborwa and a beneficiary also thanked the Deputy Minister for making "this day possible". He said to the other beneficiaries "let's avoid selling this equipment for money but use them to grow your businesses. He further thanked SEDA, LEDA and all the people who contributed in making the day a success".

Joe Motene from LEDET said "we are here



Deputy Minister for Small Business Development Cassel Mathale with some of the beneficiaries

to support you, we want to support you, we want to travel this journey with you and ensure that your businesses are registered. It only takes 10-15 minutes to register. LEDA doors are always open and waiting for you. We are going to do monitoring to check if the equipment distributed today are used wisely and if the businesses are operational".

GTM takes emerging farmers to the Joburg Fruit Market



Twenty-two emerging farmers were treated to an agricultural tour to explore the world of fresh produce at first hand. This was part of the build-up campaigns leading to the annual Greater Tzaneen Agricultural Expo to be held on the 20-21 September 2018 at the Tzaneen Country Lodge.

The eager farmers were ushered into several stalls boasting a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables produced by

farmers and sold to buyers from all over the country and outside.

Matome Mangena a young aspiring farmer was carried away by the experience and says it was his first time visiting the Johannesburg Market. "Initially I studied media but unfortunately never got employed in the industry. I changed my focus to agriculture and have just started out, this tour opened my eyes to farming and how the markets really work."

"The tour was arranged to expose farmers to the Johannesburg Market," said Nontokozo Zwane of the Department of Agriculture. "We have partnered with Greater Tzaneen Municipality to make arrangements for them to come and have direct contact, gain knowledge and understanding that will assist them in managing their farms."

Emily Mabapa one of the farmers on tour was overjoyed to witness her own produce displayed at the market, "I have been producing green beans since 2005 and selling through an agent to this market, I am happy to see that they are indeed being sold as I have been told."

All the farmers got to learn the ropes of trading in the Johannesburg market from Boipelo Phale, Manager in Business Development and Partnering at the Johannesburg Market. "We are basically involved with facilitating the sale of fresh produce between the farmers and the buyers, and ensure that farmers are satisfied with the service they receive from agents." Said Phale.

GTM HOLDS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL AGRICULTURAL EXPO

The annual Tzaneen Agricultural Expo was successfully held on the 20th and the 21st of September 2018 at Tzaneen Country Lodge. The expo according to the Director for Planning and Economic Development Benjamin Mathebula "provided a platform for direct interaction between emerging farmers and key roles players in the agricultural value chain".

The municipality held a career exhibition on the 17th of August 2018 at Nkowan-kowa Community Hall as part of the Build-up activities leading to the expo. The career exhibition was attended by at least 200 young people. Attendees were orientated by various academic institutions in the field of agriculture.

On the 6th of September 2018 GTM took 22 emerging farmers to the Johannesburg Market where they spent a day visiting market stalls boasting over a million tons of fresh fruits and vegetables. They were also orientated on the operations of the market and trained on various

topics relating to farming.

On the 20th of August, the municipality hosted a gala dinner for partners and sponsors at Sima Lodge. Mayor Maripe-Mangena donated 300 seedlings to emerging farmers worth R100 thousands. The money was paid to WD Seedlings.

Partners included the Greater Tzaneen Economic Development Agency (GTEDA), Mopani District Municipality (MDM), Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA), Department of Agriculture, Department of Education, National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), South African Local Government Association (SALGA) Limpopo, and Agri-Letaba. Limpopo MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development BasikopoMakamu delivered the keynote address

at the gala dinner. He encouraged farmers to make use of the information and resources made available to them by the government to uplift themselves. He also pointed out that "It is essential for developed farmers to support emerging farmers and share good practices" he said.

All activities wrapped up with a Golf tournament on the 05th of October 2018, at the Tzaneen Country Club where various stakeholders took part. "The purpose of the tournament was to

raise funds in support emerging farmers within Greater Tzaneen Municipality and more than R80 000 was raised at the event", Said Mangena.



GTM Councillors, officials and residents unite for Mandela

Greater Tzaneen Municipality ran over eleven International Mandela Day campaigns in one day with municipal councillors and officials lending a hand to the needy in unison.



Mayor Maripe Mangena handing over bicycle to young people.



Nkuna also sent a tractor to plough the fields at Yingisani School for the deaf. In addition Nkuna's department ran a massive cleaning and awareness campaign covering at least 10 villages and towns.

Meanwhile in Rhulani Village, the Planning and Economic Development (PED) team led by the head of the Economic Development portfolio head Councillor Sannie Tiba and director, Benjamin Mathebula painted and cleaned at Moses Mokoena's house. Mokoena who is disabled and uses a wheelchair lives in a one room shack. In partnership with GTM, the Corporative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (COGSTHA) secured sponsorship to build him a two bedroom house with a kitchen and a lounge. The engineering services department director, William Molokomme led an initiative to build a toilet for Confidence Mailula, a wheelchair bound mother of one from Mogapeng Village. Electrical Engineering's director, Sam Lelope's team was at Letaba Aftercare, a school for the disabled to repair electrical cables.

18 July 2018 - The international Mandela day for the Greater Tzaneen Municipality was a tremendous unique experience for officials and councillors, it was not just people doing community work, it was a display of unity and teamwork. It was not a public relations gimmick or photo-op, it was real physical work from the mayor to the labourers, they laboured beyond the 67 minutes for Mandela. Each of the seven municipal departments ran their own unique Mandela day campaign and councillors had their own. A total eleven campaigns in one day.

Mayor Maripe Mangena led councillors alongside Council Speaker Councillor Dikeledi Mmetle and Chief Whip Councillor Cromwell Nhemo on clean-up campaign at Dr CN Phatudi Hospital in Makhubidung Village. The councillors helped with laundry, the yard, the kitchen and the general cleaning of the wards. They turned the hospital entrance into a marvel with

some beautiful paint work. Mangena also joined another Mandela Day event at Lephephane village where 100 bicycles were donated to school children in the area. Municipal Manager Thapelo Matlala was at Modipe High School at Mothomeng Village in the Bolobedu South where he donated study guides to all matric pupils at the school and gave away tablets. The director for corporate services, Walter Shibamba and his team painted Sebone Primary School in Mokgolobotho Village. The team also planted trees and repaired potholes in some of the classes. In Muhlava-Cross Village, a team led by GTM's Chief Financial Officer, Palesa Makhubele donated wheelchairs, groceries and blankets to Tronny Mnisi (35) and Eliah Mnisi (33). Aleck Nkuna, the community services director led his team on a clean-up campaign at Mulati Village. Nkuna's team also cleaned and painted Angel's home, a crèche in at Mulati Village.

Mandela Day Pictures



PED officials and representatives of the business hammbur painted this house in Julesburg



Speaker Cllr. Dikeledi Mmetle helping at the Laundry at Dr CN Phatudi Hospital



Milton Sibuyi from IT at Seboye Primary doing some painting



Former Mayor OJ Mushwana and wife, former MP Foni Mushwana at Dr CN Phatudi Hospital



Chief Whip, Cllr. Cromwell Nhemu doing road markings at Dr CN Phatudi Hospital



Community Services officials after cleaning Angel's Home.



Confidence Mailula got a toilet built at her home on Mandela Day.



CFO and her officials donated wheelchairs, blankets and groceries.



CFO Mikateko Makhubela and officials from her department at Muhlava-Cross



Recipients of bicycle at Lephephane Village



Officials from Corporate Services painting at Seboye