

NEWS

SRC ELECTIONS AT NELSON MANDELA METRO UNIVERSITY, PE

The Youth structures of the DA in the Eastern Cape are geared for an exciting Student Representative Council Election at the former UPE campus on 22 October 2009. Although our DASO structure missed the probation deadline, it has not perturbed them from putting their weight behind 3 Independent Candidates who are aligned to DASO (*Democratic Alliance Students Organization*). Guns are ablaze with their campaign strategy and a wave of blue will be hitting the campus soon. The candidates will also be introduced to the students at a huge pre-election blast at The College Dance Club in Port Elizabeth.

SETTLING THE SCORE IN KOUGA

The Ward 6 By-Election in Kwanomzamo, Humansdorp on the 14th October 2009, will prove to be an exciting yet very different election. This will also be the first of such a campaign in the country.

With reason the DA have decided to back the Cope Candidate, Thami Ndzaleni, and this will be the start of future cooperations with an opposition party in the Province. The area of Boskloof and Humansdorp East that falls within the ward are currently being looked after by DA Cllr Deville Smith, so cooperation between the two parties is inevitable. Thami's commitment to the people of Ward 6 is to cease the manipulation of housing waiting lists, to ensure that poor quality RDP houses are repaired and to drive many other critical issues.

If Cope wins this by-election, the representation of opposition councillors will be 10 to the ANC's 10 councillors in Kouga Municipality

GRAHAMSTOWN CITIZEN OF THE YEAR - 2009

PRESTIGE AWARD FOR CLLR MIKE WHISSON

The Grahamstown Sunset Rotary Club in conjunction with Pepper Grove Pick n Pay recently announced at an exclusive event at the 1820 Settlers Monument that the 2009 Grahamstown Citizen of the Year award goes to Councillor Michael Whisson.

TV personality and author, Tracey Going, was the host of the show and shared with guests how each of the 5 finalists are involved in their communities.

Nicky Turner, the 2005 Citizen of the Year winner was called up on stage to open a white envelope which contained what everyone was waiting to hear. As she announced the winner, the audience of 250 guests responded with a strong, warm round of applause.

Mike serves as a church warden at St Michaels Cathedral, is the DA chief whip in the municipal council and Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at Rhodes University. While Going read about Whisson's involvement she said that, "he served in countless communities and as a DA councillor he focused on health matters, environmental issues and labour relations".

He used his talent to help sick people and also exposes corruption within the local government. While he offered his gratitude, Whisson said "I see this as a partnership award" as he thanked his wife, Adrienne for being so patient with him because of his busy life. He also praised the organisers for their role in awarding local unsung heroes. In praising his community he said, "I'm enormously proud to be part of Grahamstown and I have had the best years of my life here."

CONSTITUENCY AGM's

Kouga	10 October
Karoo	16 October
Makana	31 October
Amathole	24 October
PE Metro	26 October



THE NEWS IN BRIEF.....

PE NORTHERN AREAS DEBATE COSTLY MONUMENT

NORTHERN Areas Uprising Committee seeks to mark the area's historic legacy by erecting a living monument for the youth at R2.2 Million. Councillor Isaac Adams acknowledged a dire need for a youth rehabilitation centre in the northern areas, but said the budget projections were "thumb-sucked" as a living memorial would cost five times the amount.

Cllr Isaac Adams - Herald

DEMOCRACY ANC STYLE IN DEBATE REFUSAL

THE word democracy is being increasingly bandied about by ruling party "leaders" who are no longer fooling all of the people all of the time. At a recent council meeting, Councillor Elizabeth Trent called for three items of major public interest to be debated. These were the disgusting behaviour of drunk, and apparently hungry, councillors at the R3-billion stadium, the scandal involving the Van Stadens beach resort, and the alarming number of City Hall committee meetings that have been cancelled or postponed.

Cllr Elizabeth Trent - Herald

PE'S BEACHFRONT NOT UP TO SCRATCH

"THERE is no reason why we shouldn't have the best beachfront in South Africa," said Cllr Dean Biddulph, "but the fact that on beautiful beaches like Kings Beach bathers have to walk over a kilometre to buy a coldrink shows the level of mismanagement of the potential of the strip". Dean Biddulph believes the area will struggle to meet tourists' expectations – especially those pouring in for the World Cup. He said places like the Brookes Pavilion complex were a "sad waste for potential development".

Cllr Dean Biddulph - Herald

EC POLLUTED RIVERS CAUSE CHILD DEATHS

DA Eastern Cape health spokesperson, Pine Pienaar, said: "There's a clear indication that the Eastern Cape (Health Department is) not rendering the basic services our people deserve." He said it had been confirmed recently by Local Government MEC Sicelo Gqobana that some municipal sewerage systems were operating at capacity and overflowed into rivers. "If Provincial Government does not immediately deal with the backlogs in the municipal sewerage systems, more and more rivers in the Eastern Cape will be polluted and more and more children will get sick."

Pine Pienaar, MPL - Herald

DA WELCOMES METRO POLICE FORCE

THE recent announcement by PE Metro Mayor of a metro police force of 750 members, of which 150 are already in training, bodes well for the future security of residents of

Port Elizabeth. The Democratic Alliance in the metro has been actively pursuing the creation of this force since 1989.

During that time, DA councillor Bobby Stevenson (affectionately known through his crime fighting efforts as "Bobby on the Beat") mooted the birth of a metro police force for the then Port Elizabeth municipality.

Dacre Haddon, MPL - Herald

CRIME PROBLEM IN SUMMERSTRAND

STUDENTS do not make safety and security their priority, so this may attract criminals because students are returning with laptops and cellphones and money." Ward 1 councillor Stanford Slabbert said: "Many criminals pretend they are students, so they hang around and act like students and generally give them a bad name. But there are also bad elements among the students and we are aware of incidents where students are involved in criminal activities. Slabbert said he was also aware that the university was rife with petty crime. "We have appealed to have the vacant lots behind the university trimmed of bushes, but this just falls on deaf ears."

Cllr Stanford Slabbert - Herald

DA ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO JOIN CLINIC COMMITTEE

RESIDENTS of Beacon Bay and Nompumelelo, after months of complaining about lack of service at their local clinics, will now have a direct hand in sorting out problems. The Beacon Bay and Nompumelelo clinics have frustrated residents for some time. Complaints about the clinic service were also raised during the Daily Dispatch community dialogue held earlier this year. Ward councillor Rowan Thiele said a number of issues were raised at last week's meeting in Nompumelelo where the committee was discussed and people encouraged to join it .

Cllr Rowan Thiele - Daily Dispatch

LONG OVERDUE MM APPOINTMENT

NEW Buffalo City municipal manager Mandla Sithole has spoken out for the first time since his politically turbulent appointment. He said he was not perturbed by the ongoing infighting in the ruling ANC over his appointment. DA councillor Annette Rademeyer said the ANC did not know how to separate party and State and was not accountable to ratepayers. "The past couple of municipal managers have been a complete failure due to the ANC's cadre deployment policy."

Cllr Annette Rademeyer - Daily Dispatch

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

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NEWS IN BRIEF..... CONTINUED

SEWERAGE DESTROYS FISH

CONCENSUS seems to be building that the culprit behind the fish deaths in the Swartkops River is Uitenhage's sewerage works. Cllr Annemarie Terblanche said yesterday she had received information that a main pipe had burst at the plant, and that the effluent had been channeled into a stormwater drain and then into the river. Her information was that the incident had occurred on September 12. Rumblings of continuing "problems" at the plant, which is near the Volkswagen factory, reached her office and a crisis meeting was held immediately.

Cllr Annemarie Terblanche - *Weekend Post*

ADM ABUSE OF TRAVEL ALLOWANCES

A CRACKDOWN on councillors in Amathole District Municipality who abuse travel allowances is under way, with plans to recover "irregular expenditure" from guilty parties. Amathole has asked two law firms to look into its policy on the use of municipal vehicles by councillors. DA councillor Kobus Botha said the use of municipal vehicles by councillors was prevalent. "Once you receive a travel allowance you can't use municipal vehicles," he said.

Cllr Kobus Botha - *Daily Dispatch*

COUNCILLORS NEWS

- Cllr Siela Reeders from Kouga Constituency was involved in a serious motor vehicle accident and is recuperating at the Aurora Clinic in Port Elizabeth.
- Cllr Theuns Eksteen is in the United Kingdom representing Camdeboo Municipality
- Cllr Annemarie Terblanche was nominated as "Vonkelvrou van die VLV", Uitenhage
- Cllr Dinesh Vallabh has been invited to present a paper at the University of Toronto, Canada
- Cllr Michael Whisson was awarded Grahamstown Citizen of the Year Award (*see article*)

"In order to become the master, the politician poses as the servant."

--Charles de Gaulle

IMPORTANT DATES TO DIARISE...

COM Training	13-15 Oct 2009
Resolutions to Congress	23 Oct 2009
Award Nominations	23 Oct 2009
Delegates to Congress	30 Oct 2009
Accommodation Confirmation	30 Oct 2009
Transport Confirmation	30 Oct 2009
ADAC Congress	13 Nov 2009
Provincial Congress	14 Nov 2009
Federal Council	21 Nov 2009
Helen Zille Visit to PE	30 Nov 2009



THE BIG BLEED...

Constituency Leader, Stuart Farrow and Buffalo City councillors and activists recently embarked on a blood donation campaign in East London.