



your news your views

Yeovue news

Free to all

2 June 2011 Volume 4 No 20

Breaking news:

The Times newspaper reported on 1 June 2011 that the Gauteng MEC for Economic Development, Qedani Mahlangu, has announced a moratorium on new liquor licenses. She said no new licenses will be issued until existing licenses are checked to see if they are legal and legal license holders are complying with the trading conditions of their licences. This is good news for the Yeoville Bellevue community which called for just such a moratorium in November 2009 with a petition to the Liquor Board signed by over 430 people. We will have more on this issue next week.

Local public facilities targeted by criminals

Yeovue News recently reported on a burglary at Yeoville Community School. We followed this up with a story of chairs being stolen from Sheikh Anta Diop School. Yeoville Community School was again targeted. Today we report on thefts from the Skills Centre and the Yeoville Clinic and we ask: where next and what are we as a community going to do about it?

The only thing between the Yeoville Clinic and the Yeoville Police Station is the multi-purpose sports courts. About 100 metres from the SAPS is the Skills Centre which is in the grounds of the Yeoville Recreation Centre.

But this closeness to the police did not stop thieves from breaking into both the Clinic and the Skills Centre this month.

On Friday 6 May, the Yeoville Recreation Centre reported that the Skills Centre had been burgled. Fourteen computers were stolen. Two grass-cutting machines which were being used by the Community Works Programme (CWP) employment project were also taken.

The Skills Centre has not been operating for some years, apparently due to a lack of funds. But the loss of the computers does mean that the possibility of re-starting a computer training facility is under threat.

David Maredi, manager of the Rec Centre told Yeovue News that 'the first we knew there had been a robbery was when we saw the locks were broken - the lock to the gate next to the crèche and the lock on the burglar gate of the computer room'.

He said that the security company has taken responsibility for the theft - there is supposed to be 24 hour security at the Recreation Centre - and he has heard that the guards on duty have been fired.

'The company has promised to replace the computers,' he added.

Three weeks later, sometime between Saturday 28 May and Sunday 29 May, there was a break-in at the Yeoville Clinic. The Clinic is guarded by the same security company as the Recreation Centre, though

they do not have 24 hour security there. The Clinic does have an alarm system - the Recreation Centre does not.

When Granny Stobber, manager of the Clinic, and her staff arrived at the Clinic on Monday morning this week, they

found that someone had smashed a window, broken a burglar guard and climbed into the building. They had then broken the lock on an internal security gate and on the gate in front of Granny's office. Missing were a flat screen TV, a computer server, a microwave, a kettle and antibiotic tablets from two of the consulting rooms.

This is not the first time the Clinic has been burgled. It happened twice before in 2009. It was only three months ago that the clinic replaced the TV that was stolen in 2009. Now that is gone as well.

It seems the people who broke in knew what they were doing and where they were going. They knew there was equipment in the manager's office and they only broke into the rooms that had antibiotics in them. Many other rooms were untouched.

'There is another problem here,' says Granny Stobber. 'There are people who sleep in the park along the fence of the clinic. They break the palisade fence and come into the vegetable garden area. We

Granny Stobber, Manager of the Yeoville Clinic, shows the new bars which have been put over the window which burglars used to enter the Clinic and steal equipment and drugs.



had to remove the tap in the back because they were misusing it.'

She showed us a hole in the mesh fence and the missing slats of the palisade fence. This may be how the thieves got in.

But, in both cases - that of the Clinic and of the Skills Centre - how did the thieves get away without being seen? How did the thieves who broke into the Skills Centre get away with fourteen computers and two grass cutters without being seen?

Why did the security company not realise the computers were being stolen from the Skills Centre? Did the security company respond to the alarm from the Clinic? Granny showed us how alarm sensors in one consulting room had been removed. A thief can't remove a sensor without setting off the alarm.

So the big question is: is the security company doing its job properly?

While Yeovue News, the CPF chair and deputy chair and a Street Patroller were talking to Granny Stobber in the yard, a young man came with

A message from your new ward councillors

As every knows, the municipal elections are over and we have four newly-elected ward councillors for the Yeoville Bellevue area, responsible for Wards 64, 66, 67 and 73. Today we have a message for the community of Yeoville Bellevue from each of the new councillors.



Ward 64



Matsemela Phineas Madisha

I hope everyone had a happy Africa Day. Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you who took part in the recent local government election: the IEC, party agents from different parties, the media - especially Yeovue News for reaching out to our beloved people and providing them with information. It is going to be hard work for the next five years in terms of providing better service to our people. It is therefore important for all stakeholders - NGOs, faith-based institutions, educational institutions, the private sector and others - to take part in making sure that we create a better Yeoville Bellevue. Everybody must take full ownership of our beautiful area. Let us all work together to build a better place. **YN**

Contact details: 082 5371564 or iketle.matsemela@yahoo.com

10 days, then let me know and give me the reference number for follow-up purposes. **YN**
Contact details: 084 3550826, 011 7286338 or mravid@axxess.co.za



Ward 67



Sihlwele Myeki

Thank you to the people of Ward 67 in Yeoville Bellevue for voting in the recent elections and for voting ANC. This mandate will not be betrayed. Thank you, too, for participating in Africa Week and many thanks to the organisers of the event – the African Diaspora Forum, the YBCDT, the YSF and others involved. The ANC programme goes beyond the provision of critical basic services. Our vision is of a united, non racial and democratic society, free of poverty, crime and other associated ills caused by inequality. We call on all in Ward 67 to work together towards a fully integrated community and to forge a

common programme of development for the Ward. I will distribute a schedule of public meetings and I appeal to all Ward 67 residents to attend – your input is critical. I call on all organised formations in our ward to send me a schedule of your meetings and your contacts. As Ward Councillor, I will work with everyone in the Ward, regardless of political affiliation and preference, to ensure that delivery of basic services is carried out promptly and for the development of the Ward. This is a constitutional obligation, not a matter of personal choice. **YN**
Contact details: 076 5174596 or myekis@vodamail.co.za.



Ward 66



Carlos da Rocha

My commitment to this community is simple: zero tolerance on by-law infringements; decent service delivery; a clean ward; combating crime; a road safety plan; and general development of the area. I will work with community organisations and I will hold the community accountable for their support in achieving these things. To the community of Bellevue and Bellevue East I say that, though you might feel isolated from the rest of Ward 66, I will make sure this will not be the case. You are fully a part of Ward 66 and shall be treated as such. Bellevue and Bellevue East are now on my radar screen and I'll start by making contact with local organisations and, after discussing the challenges in the area, I will work to find a positive way forward. I sense the tension coming from the community of Bellevue and Bellevue East - they feel that they are not part of the greater Yeoville area any longer. They are wrong. They will also be a part of that area and I am happy to work with my ANC colleagues to do what has to be done to benefit the whole community of Yeoville Bellevue. Once I have been through induction as a Ward Councillor, I will be calling for an introductory public meeting, together with the relevant organisations of the Bellevue and Bellevue East part of Ward 66. **YN**
Contact details: 083 4473648 or darocha.carlos@gmail.com

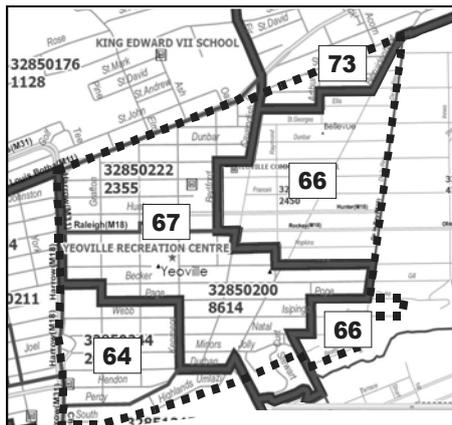


Ward 73



Marcelle Bloom-Ravid

Thank you to the residents of Ward 73 for your overwhelming support at the polls. I will fulfil my mandate with zest and to the best of my ability. I will be doing an in-depth tour, together with the YBCDT, of the small area of Yeoville Bellevue that is included in my ward - I am a great believer in on-site investigations so that each and every problem can be noted and sent on to be logged for action to be taken by the various departments. Please note that all complaints should first be recorded at the Call Centre and a reference number obtained (011 3755555). If no action has been taken within



The four wards that are part of Yeoville Bellevue

As we have noted before in Yeovue News, Yeoville Bellevue is served by four different ward councillors and the area is now more equally shared between the four councillors than it was in the past. Yeoville Bellevue can set an example to other areas of how ward councillors from different parties can work together for the greater good of the broader population of the area.

a bucket to collect water. He said the security guard usually let him in to fetch water. He washes cars, sometimes in the clinic parking lot, sometimes in the street - that's why he needs the water.

When the Patroller, concerned about this breach of security, questioned the car washer, he was told: 'You are a police out there, you are not a police in here.'

There is something very wrong when public facilities in a community are broken into like this. It means that there are people who have no respect for the community and for their need for these services.

We also need to ask whether anyone saw these thieves. If they did, why did they not report it to the police? Does this mean that we don't care if life-saving medicine is stolen from the sick of the community, if equipment meant to teach people skills is taken, if chairs for our children to use in school are removed and sold (as some were) to people working in the Market?

It is important for us as community members to protect public property - after all, it is there for us to use, it is there for our children. If we have a clinic without resources, a skills centre without equipment, a school without furniture, it is we in the community who will suffer.

Think about it and let us know what you think the solution is. After all, if we, the community of Yeoville Bellevue, are not prepared to come with ideas for solving these problems, we cannot complain if the problems continue. **YN**

This Telkom land - from where the train is on Raleigh St to the old Telkom building behind it on Hunter St - is up for sale. Should we try and get this property for a new market for the community? Please tell us - we need to know what others in Yeoville Bellevue think of the idea - urgently!



Telkom challenge

Do we want to grab the opportunity to benefit from Telkom's decision to sell their land in Yeoville Bellevue?

After an explosion in February 2010 forced Telkom to move out of their building in Hunter St, they set up a temporary exchange in the sports ground opposite the Market.

However, it seems that this move is now going to be final. Telkom has been negotiating with Public Works to buy the land on the sports ground and they have decided to sell their own piece of land.

Their land is made up of two plots which stretch from Raleigh St (where the old train restaurant stands) to Hunter St (where their damaged building stands). See picture above.

The latest development is that the land is going to be auctioned in late June.

Earlier this year, the YBCDT submitted a proposal to the City of Johannesburg's Department of

Economic Development. In this proposal, the YBCDT suggested that the City of Joburg (CoJ) take over the Telkom land and create a second market with production workshops. This would provide a permanent space for street traders to work from and it would help to clear the streets of illegal trading.

The CoJ could get the land by buying it from Telkom, by leasing it from Telkom, or by asking Telkom to donate the land to the CoJ (and therefore to the community).

Now that Telkom is planning to auction the land, we will have to move quickly to avoid the land being sold to a private developer. That is, if we think that creating a new market is a good idea.

YBCDT and Yeovue News are asking you - the community of Yeoville Bellevue - if you think we should encourage the CoJ to take over the Telkom land. If you do, please let us know **URGENTLY** and we will use the responses from the community to support the case for getting this land for a second market and production centre.

In the meantime, the YBCDT will write to the CoJ and to Telkom to ask them to urgently consider this idea and for Telkom to postpone the auction to allow for discussion to take place.

*Your input will help a great deal. Please call us on one of the following numbers: 011 4870269, 011 4871430, 082 3737705 or send an email to ybcdt@yeoville.org.za. You can also send a fax to 086 5514990 or visit us in our offices at 18 Rockey Alley, 24 Rockey St. This is URGENT. If we do not move quickly, the land will be auctioned and we as a community will have no control over what happens to that property in the future. **YN***



In the build-up to Africa Week, the YBCDT arranged with the Region F Sports and Recreation unit of the City of Johannesburg to bring chess pieces for the outdoor chess board in the Yeoville Park. From the first day, people were playing chess on the board and have continued to do so ever since.

If you would like to play chess - indoors or outdoors - please register with the Recreation Centre office. If there is enough interest, the Recreation Centre will set up a new Yeoville Bellevue Chess Club.

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Community Directory

Community-based organisations

- **African Diaspora Forum** 17 Rockey Alley, 24 Rockey St, Yeoville Bellevue - Marc Gbaffou 083 5147367
- **ANC Joe Slovo Branch (Ward 67)** Sihlwele Myeki (secretary) 076 5174596
- **Congo Heart of Africa** Bienvenu Ingila 082 6675969
- **Congress of the People (COPE)** Noliitha Majola 082 0509464
- **Democratic Alliance (DA) Ward 67 Branch** Jerry Moseta 079 0694188
- **SA Disabled Musicians Association** Johannes Dube 083 6897194
- **Ivorian Community** Marc Gbaffou 083 5147367
- **National Association of Yoruba Descendants, Southern Africa** Prince Adesina Al-Amin, National Youth Leader 076 6928060
- **Nigerian Union South Africa Mathias Folabi** Sagbo, Secretary (Gauteng) 0833033007
- **Observatory Ratepayers Association** Louise Denyschen 011 2746825 secretary@gmail.com
- **Refugee Help Desk** Jean Pierre A Lukamba Om 17 Rockey Alley, 24 Rockey St, Bellevue 083 8751256 refugeesa@gmail.com
- **Union for the Reconstruction of Congo (UREC)** Claude Kabambi 083 4865795 ckabambi@webmail.co.za
- **Urania Village Community Forum** Sector 3 Community Policing Forum keithspeacock@gmail.com 011 6480367 082 4649458
- **Ward 67 Ward Committee** Sihlwele Myeki 076 5174596
- **Yeoville Community Policing Forum** 17 Rockey Alley, 24 Rockey St, Bellevue Mbuyiseni Khoza 082 2657435
- **Yeoville Environmental Organisation** Joseph Setloboko 073 7339083
- **Yeoville Muslim Community** Hussein Musa Baza-Awe 083 9565363
- **Yeoville Stakeholders Forum** George Lebone (chairperson) 079 3894409 Cate Bompas (secretary) 079 6105909
- **Yeoville United Artists** Bongzi Kubheka 082 7594987
- **Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU)** 9a Raymond St (corner Rockey St) 073 3718741

Non-governmental organisations

- **ACTION Support Centre** Positive action to transform conflict 011 3396332
 - **Mother Johnson International** Mother Johnson 011 4870309
 - **People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA)** 011 6424345/6
 - **Self Help Christian Refugee Association** Xavier Bulimwengo 078 4251650
 - **Curriculum Development Project** Charlotte Schaer 011 6241025
 - **Christians for Peace in Africa** Pastor Thomas-Rene Kitutu 072 2625302
 - **Yeoville Market Micro-Retailers** Sebastian Zarembo 072 1416411
 - **Lesbian and Gay Equality Project** 011 4873811 info@equality.org.za
 - **NOAH's Ark Resource Centre, Yeoville** Gloria Nhlathathi 079 2330030
 - **Nazareth House** Sister Lorraine 011 6481002
- ## Institutions
- **Grace Community Centre** Claude Nkebi 076 6310180 claude.nkebi@yahoo.com
 - **Observatory Girls Primary School** Cnr Regent St and de la Rey St Tel: 011 4871100
 - **St Aidan's Anglican Church** Father Neo 011 4871112
 - **St Francis Catholic Church** Cate Bompas 011 6488794
 - **St John's College** Tsepo Matubatuba 083 7737382
 - **Sheikh Anta Diop School** Jemadiri Kilele 011 6488122
 - **Sophiatown Community Psychological Services** Children and Families on the Move 20 Derby Street, Bertrams Tel 011 6145242
 - **Trinity Congregational Church** Zama Mpambani 079 4274838
 - **United Church Schools** Helenne Ulster (principal) 011 6484727
 - **Yeoville Baptist Tabernacle Church** 011 6487325

- **Yeoville Baptist Tabernacle Youth Dept** 011 6487325
- **Yeoville Boys School** Lindelani Singo (principal) 011 6489901
- **Yeoville Community School** Martha Mente (principal) 011 6489163

Public services and facilities

- **Region F Stakeholder Management & Liaison** Zaabe Magwaza 082 4679411
- **Urban Inspectors** Yeoville North Fikile Mdlalose 083 4448517 Yeoville South Basetsana Bogopane 083 3811359 Bellevue/Bellevue East Lettie Rasebeka 083 3811435
- **Ward 67 Community Development Worker (CDW)** Neo Setloboko 083 9537053
- **Ward 64 Councillor** Matsemela Madisha 082 5371564 ikettle.matsemela@yahoo.com
- **Ward 66 Councillor** Carlos da Rocha 083 4473648 darocha.carlos@gmail.com
- **Ward 67 Councillor** Sihlwele Myeki 076 5174596 myekis@vodamail.co.za
- **Ward 73 Councillor** Marcelle Ravid 084 3550826 mravid@axxess.co.za
- **Yeoville Bellevue Community Development Trust** 18 Rockey Alley, 24 Rockey St, Yeoville Bellevue Tel: 011 4870269 Fax: 086 5514992 ybcdt@yeoville.org.za Maurice Smithers 082 3737705 maurice@yeoville.org.za Thammy Jezile 0730222421 thammy@yeoville.org.za
- **Yeoville Community Clinic** Kenmere Rd, corner Hopkins St Tel: 011 6487979
- **Yeoville Police Station (SAPS)** 23 Kenmere Rd, corner Yeo St Tel: 011 4875900
- **Yeoville Post Office** Kenmere Rd, between Raleigh St and Hopkins St, inside the arcade Tel: 011 6489103
- **Yeoville Public Library** 49-51 Raleigh St Tel: no phone at present
- **Yeoville Recreation Centre** 36 Raleigh St (between Kenmere and Fortesque) David Maredi 011 6489176
- **Yeoville Swimming Pool** Corner Raleigh St and Kenmere Rd Tel: 011 6489359

Other contact numbers

- **Black Sash** Tel: 011 8348361/5 For advice and help with your rights
- **City Power** Tel: 011 4907900
- **Emergency Connect** Tel: 011 3755911
- **Emergency Management Services** Tel: 011 4076374
- **Hijacked Buildings hotline** 0860 111381 innercityhotline@joburg.org.za William Tudikavekewa 011 3768645 083 4612996
- **Joburg Connect** Tel: 011 3755555 (always ask for reference no.) joburgconnect@joburg.org.za
- **Toll-Free Presidential Hot-line** Tel: 17737

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Editorial

Africa Week 2011 has come and gone. It wasn't like 2010. It was small, confined to the Yeoville Recreation Centre. But we kept the spirit alive.

We have already begun the process of raising funds for next year's event. We will plan well ahead and hopefully we will be able to have an event that will be bigger and better than that of 2010.

The municipal elections have also faded into the past and our newly-elected Ward Councillors are beginning their five years of service to the community.

Elsewhere in this publication, the four councillors responsible for Yeoville Bellevue talk to us and share with us what they are thinking and planning. Let's welcome them and prepare to work with them as we continue striving for a better Yeoville Bellevue for all.

As we do, let's remember the words of Mahatma Gandhi who said: 'Be the change you want to see'. In other words, if you want Yeoville Bellevue to change and become a clean, caring and law-abiding community, you yourself must be a clean, caring and law-abiding person in every possible way, no matter who you are, no matter where you come from.

Let's all start by helping to protect our community assets. It is very worrying that public buildings are getting burgled. People are stealing from the community, from you and me. What are we doing about it, what are we going to do about it?



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