



your news your views

# Yeovue news

Free to all

16 June 2011 Volume 4 No 22

# Dumpers caught in the act

Thanks to the efforts of EPWP cleaners working with Pikitup, Yeovue News has evidence that there are local businesses that are responsible for some of the illegal dumping in Yeoville Bellevue. Even worse, these are businesses which provide food and drink to the public and therefore should be complying with Environmental Health by-laws. Instead, they dump in the streets and encourage the spread of pests like rats and cockroaches which get into their own kitchens and into the kitchens of local residents.

**B**hekani Thusi cares about his community. He is also one of the many people in Yeoville Bellevue who struggles to get full-time employment.

Bhekani has found a way to earn a living - though small - and to help the community. He is part of a team of people who work with Pikitup through the government's Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP). He is a Team Leader responsible for managing 30 people cleaning Yeoville Bellevue every day, Monday to Friday.

However, Bhekani and his team are not happy. This is the second time they have complained to Yeovue News about people who dump rubbish in the streets illegally. On 1 April, we reported that there was an illegal car repair shop operating from the basement of a block of flats. They were dumping old car parts and other rubbish on the corner of Bezuidenhout St and Hunter St.

Today, Bhekani is complaining about another problem of dumping on another corner of Hunter St, this time on the corner of Fortesque. He and his team keep on finding piles of rubbish on this corner.

"We have spoken to people in the building on that corner, the restaurant bars and the residents in the buildings. They all deny responsibility, saying it is people from Times Square who bring their rubbish down there." Bhekani tell us. "But we now have evidence of who it is."

This morning, after speaking again to the businesses nearby

about the new pile of rubbish on the corner, Bhekani came to report the problem to Yeovue News. When he got back, he saw that someone had set fire to the pile.

But before everything could burn up, he looked through the rubbish - which included boxes that once held alcohol - and he found two pieces of paper (see the pictures below) which are from M6 Restaurant on the corner of Hunter and Fortesque and the Top of Africa Lodge in Times Square - there could be others also.

These two pieces of paper will be delivered to the Environmental Health Department in the City of Johannesburg so that they can deal with the two businesses. It is time for people in Yeoville Bellevue to understand that they cannot continue to break the law without punishment.

It should be noted, by the way, that lighting fires in public places - which includes pavements - is also against the law. We do not know why someone set fire to the rubbish. Was it because they



Bhekani Thusi watches as the rubbish burns. Damage to the tree can be seen - it is obviously not the first time it has been burnt.

thought that was the right way to get rid of it? Was it because they wanted to hide the evidence?

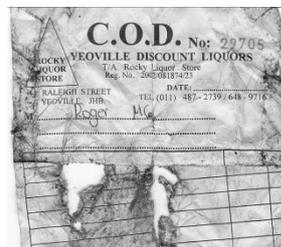
Lighting such a fire is also a problem because people usually put their rubbish at the foot of a tree. If the rubbish is burning, it damages the tree. This too is against the law.

So the people responsible are guilty of at least three things:

- Illegal dumping
- Lighting a fire in a public place
- Causing damage to a tree in a public space

### PLEASE

- Be responsible
- Do not dump - put rubbish out on the right day in the right bin
- Do not burn rubbish in a public place
- Respect the trees in our public spaces



# Noise article causes reaction

In the three years of its life, Yeovue News has not had very many letters from the public. We are not sure why. So we were surprised to see how many people responded to the article on noise that appeared in last week's issue. Here are the emails and SMSs we received. Clearly, noise is a topic that touches a lot of people. Thank you all for responding.

Editor's note: *As part of our article on noise last week, I told the story of a white pub owner who claimed that 'all blacks like noise'. I asked readers what they thought about that statement. Some of the messages are responding to that story.*

The owner of the pub was a special white man compared to an evil black man. This what I think Mr Maurice .... is trying to highlight. (He is saying) that blacks are empty vessels who make noise. (But) we stay in white communities where after drinking or after their rugby matches, they play loud music, driving bikes everywhere, not bothering who is right. This statement from Mr Maurice shows that he is very harsh on blacks and racial(ly) discriminating. So I say let's take Mr Maurice to the same court where Malema was attending because of hate speech. Or (do) whites always get away with everything? Stop hate speech and deal with the facts! *Anonymous*

Editor's response: *I am sorry that you think that I am guilty of hate speech. I did not agree with the owner of the pub and I certainly do not think he was 'special'. I was questioning him that night because I thought he was being unfair to the community (which is mostly black) by making such a noise. I am simply reporting what he said.*

*While I talking was talking to him, a young black woman from the flats opposite came into the restaurant/pub. I told her what the man had said and asked her if she thought he was right. "Of course not", she said, "I am always getting disturbed by the noise from this place and from Times Square." I asked her the question in front of him to prove to him that he was wrong, and to show him that he was insulting the black community by saying what he said.*

*And you are absolutely right that there are people in the white community who also make a lot of noise. That was the point I was trying to make - that you cannot say that 'all white people are quiet' or 'all black people like noise'. All people - regardless of race, colour, gender, age, class position or national origin - must understand and obey the law and respect the rights of others.*

People who dislike some anti-social behaviour like noise-making are often scared to say so. They are scared of what might happen if they complain. That's my experience. *Richard*

A number of groups of worshippers pray 24/7 365 days a year next door to the building I live in on an empty piece of land, which is privately owned. Singing, clapping, screaming and drumming, there is virtually never a time when there is complete silence because of these worshippers. They also litter the area, and park up the street. Perhaps they are unaware of the noise they make or, much more likely, are aware that they are being noisy, but don't care. It is incredibly stressful after working all day/week to come home to this noise. They know very well this is not a designated area for praying and the worshippers need to be considerate of residents. One would think if someone was God-fearing as they claim, they would behave in a more considerate manner. Although the council knows all too well about this piece of land and the worshippers, and claims to care and promises to take action, nothing has been done by them. *Irritated resident*

He is wrong. I'm black. I don't like noise, dirty streets and overcrowded places. *Sara in Yeoville*

I would like to thank you for the initiative, we love it. It is a way of communication. If you can stop this noise which is disturbing people, it will be greater than anything you have done before as we are sick and tired of it. I live at Ermano Court, 76 Hopkins St and next to us there is a building where there are guys who live on the ground floor, first flat from our building, and those people make noise with their very big speaker like the one which churches are using - the music comes from laptop to the speaker. We cannot sleep and to make it worse, they drink with boys and girls under age. I will appreciate your work if you can do something about it. *Resident in Hopkins St*

It's not true that all blacks like noise. In most cases, people do not complain because the noise-makers say that they cannot be told by others what to do. *Anonymous*

I just want to comment about noise. The churches and shebeens are the source of noise in Yeoville Bellevue. The churches are using noisy equipment to preach. Please consider my point. Tks. *Anonymous*

I am black and, like other people, there are times when I like noise and when I don't like noise. For example I like noise at a party, but not when I am sleeping and just want peace. I also don't like certain noises. However, I know there are times when I have to tolerate and respect others making noise. I am very happy to do that so long as those people are considerate too. What I can't tolerate are people who play their own music so loud that I can't hear my own music. So I don't agree with the statement that 'blacks like noise'. *Thabisile*

A black female columnist wrote a few years ago in a Sunday newspaper: "Yes, we are loud - get used to it."

I have been living in Yeoville since 1990, when it was largely white, and yes, the place is now noisier. In the old days there were quaint restaurants where white couples would sit across from each other and talk softly with a little candle between them.

I got used to a noisier Yeoville, I am not complaining. But I do get a bit annoyed when there is a car hooting at 5.30am to call someone outside who is sharing a lift to work.

And I get very annoyed by dogs barking at night. I can't understand how the owner of a dog, half a block away from me, can sleep when his dog barks non-stop for hours deep into the night. I get awful thoughts while lying awake and silently cursing the dog. (I am weak and irritable the next day if I haven't slept well.)

I have read that in Copenhagen in Denmark, ALL dogs must be indoors by 9pm every night. There is not a single dog disturbing one's sleep there. But such a by-law would be very difficult to implement in Africa.

Black people have brought vibrancy to Yeoville, and there is a lot about their cosy, sharing lifestyle that I admire. I just wish that more people would keep their dogs quiet at night - I don't want to be forced to buy Two-Step out of

desperation. *Fanie de Villiers*

Editor's note: *Two-Step is the name for a poison used by criminals to kill dogs when they are going to rob houses.*

On the pavement in Muller St, there is a car fixing business (which) operates every day till 9 or 10pm. Music blares from cars, men shout and sing and there is continuous revving of cars. We can't even watch TV anymore. Police drive past and do nothing. *Tired of this*

I am a young, black person and I like noise, but clubs and drinking places must not be next to houses. Also clubs in Rockey St must not play their music so loud that they disturb people in their houses. *Gloria*

## Know your neighbours

At a recent Community Policing Forum imbizo, the MEC for Community Safety said that people should get to know their neighbours as a way of combating crime. She said her department would run a "Get to know your neighbour" campaign. But do we need to wait for that?

People living in small communities around the world all know each other. So if something happens in such communities, everyone usually knows about it. It is very difficult for people to do wrong things in such communities and not be caught.

It is different in a big city. It is very different in a community like Yeoville Bellevue where people come from all over South Africa and from all over the world.

This makes it more difficult to deal with anti-social behaviour and with crime. But if people knew their neighbours, if they knew who was living in their street or in their block, it would be much easier to stop wrong things from happening and to identify those who do wrong.

Each person who lives in Yeoville Bellevue can help with this. Get to know your neighbours and people living in your street or in your block of flats. Introduce yourself to them. Talk about your street,

about the challenges you face and about how you can work together to solve them.

Share your phone numbers with each other. It would be very useful - if someone was breaking into your house - to call your neighbours to help. You could also call your neighbour if you saw that someone was trying to break into their house or steal their car.

In some communities, people have whistles and, if there is a problem, they blow their whistles and everyone comes out to help.

You can also form a Street Committee - your Street Committee can work with the local councillor, with the Community Policing Forum, with the SAPS, to keep your street safe. You can work together to keep your street clean and to talk together to people in your street who do things that other people in the street do not like.

Let's all work together - no matter where we come from - and help each other to create a clean, safe and caring Yeoville Bellevue!

## Yeoville Boys Road Race

On Saturday 30 July, Yeoville Boys School will be hosting a 5km and 2,5km Road race through the streets of Yeoville Bellevue.

The 5km for 10-14 year olds starts at

8am and costs R6 to enter. The 2,5km for under 10s starts at 8:45am and costs R3.

All entrants get a t-shirt. Finishers get a medal, as well as Coke and crisps supplied by Pick n'Pay.

Parents are welcome to enter and jog with their children, but they will not get handouts.

The first five boys and five girls to finish each race get Pick'n'Pay vouchers.

Enter in the weeks before the race, so that you can get your t-shirt beforehand and arrive wearing it, ready to race.

Legendary runners such as Zithulele Sinque and Hendrik Ramaala will warm up with the 5km runners.

Talent scouts will be en route to identify talented youngsters.

Join us in the first ever Yeoville Road Race. Entry forms will be available at Yeoville Boys' Primary - please call and we will deliver to you.

Members of the public are also encouraged to line the streets, watch the race and cheer the runners on.

Contact Sports Teacher Colleen McNally for more details and to enter.

Call 011 011 648 9901 or visit the school in Muller St (between Bedford and Kenmere), Yeoville.



**Do 1 thing**

**20 June 2011**

Venue: Yeoville Recreation centre

Time: from 10.30am

Theme: "Stop Complaining, take action".

There will be speakers, workshops, experiences sharing session, music, drama, exhibits and many more.

**WORLD REFUGEE DAY**

Logos: Joburg, Islamic Relief, Amnesty, Commission for Gender Equality



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# Community Directory



## Editorial

### 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)** Nolitha 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 Denysschen 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 clkabambi@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

### 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 Schaefer 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 Nhlabathi 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 mraavid@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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Each week, we have lots to write about life in Yeoville Bellevue. But there is not enough space in these four pages to write about everything. That is why, one day, we want to have a bigger, longer Yeovue News, so that we can carry more information and news.

Some people have said we should have more stories on culture and sports. Others want more information on how to solve problems in the area. Still others want to know what is happening in the area, in the Recreation Centre. Others want to tell the community about the work they are doing.

In this week's issue, we again talk about dumping of rubbish. We also talk about 'knowing our neighbours'. If we all work together, street by street, block by block, we can help to keep Yeoville Bellevue clean by talking to people when they dump rubbish or litter. We can explain to people why they must not light fires. We can ask people to please not park on our pavements and tell them we don't want to face danger by walking in the street.

It is up to us. We together can make a safe, clean, caring community where we can feel happy to live, to work and to bring up our children. No matter where we come from, even if we are here for only one or two years, we can make that time better if we work together with others.

This week, we also remember the youth of June 1976. We can learn from them. They were willing to work together to fight for what was right. We can, too.

### June 16 Commemoration & Celebration

The day will be honoured through music, acting, dancing, poetry and public speaking.

**Venue: Yeoville Recreation Centre**

**Day and Time: 16 June 10am – 4pm.**

The event seeks to draw the attention of children and youth in Yeoville Bellevue and neighbouring communities to the importance of commemorating and celebrating our history and observing of national holidays, in particular June 16.

Organised by Ama-Afrika Aqotho Arts  
073 9399665 073 4741632 073 2337140

### City of Joburg Migrant Help Desk

Mondays 9am - 12pm

Office 17, Rockey Alley

24 Rockey St, Yeoville Bellevue

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### Yeovue News

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