



What will YOU be doing for your community for 67 minutes on Mandela Day 18 July?

Yeovue news

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14 July 2011 Volume 4 No 26

Empower yourself!

Earlier this year, we reported on a committee which was set up in April to help people understand their rights and responsibilities. This week, SIMPHIWE NAKI, interim chairperson, talks about how and why the committee was started and some plans for the future.

On Saturday night, in three separate incidents, a young boy, a drunk teenager under the age of 18 and a drunken man were all knocked down by cars.

Two of the accidents were hit-and-run - the drivers did not stop to help the people they had knocked down.

Also on Saturday, a mugger allegedly tried to rob two men. They resisted and, in the fight that followed, are said to have cut off his ear.

Elsewhere in the paper today, Yeovue News reports on problems with water. There is also a notice for two new liquor license applications.

The principal of Yeoville Boys School has reported that thieves have stolen the goalpost from the school's sports ground.

Yeovue News has received a number of complaints about noise from members of the community in the last week as well.

These few stories show that the people of Yeoville Bellevue face a number of challenges every day as they live here and go about their business.

But do they know what to do about these challenges? Do they even think they can do anything or do they believe they must just accept that such things are part of life?

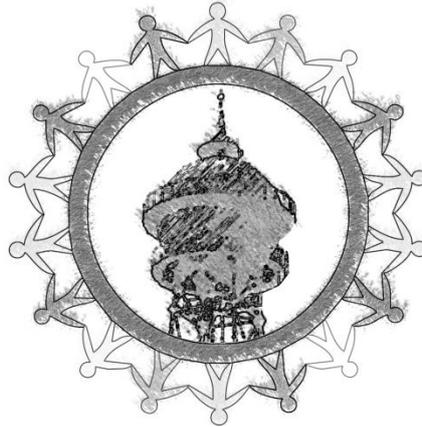
It is always possible to do something to improve conditions in communities. We therefore formed a committee to find ways of addressing the everyday challenges we face in our community.

When we started, we thought the committee would only work on the problem of alcohol abuse and illegal selling of alcohol. Letting people know when applications were made, talking to the SAPS and the Liquor Board about enforcement, meeting with the Liquor Traders' Association in Yeoville Bellevue.

But the acting executive of the committee could see that there were other issues that also needed attention and so it was agreed that the committee would also deal with things like applications for the rezoning of properties, gambling

applications and noise pollution.

The main aim of the committee is to promote the idea that something can be done to improve life in Yeoville Bellevue. Members of the Committee (who are all



Logo of the Yeoville Bellevue Community Empowerment Committee. It shows the people of Yeoville Bellevue standing together and holding hands in a circle around the Yeoville water tower - working together to make Yeoville Bellevue a safe, law-abiding and caring place.



Simphiwe Naki, acting chairperson of the Yeoville Bellevue Community Empowerment Committee

members of the Yeoville Bellevue community) discuss how to deal with challenges so that conditions in Yeoville Bellevue can become more acceptable to the people living here. The committee was therefore called the Community Advocacy Committee, because advocacy means suggesting, or proposing or promoting an idea or a way of doing things.

Perhaps, though, we should change the name from Advocacy Committee to Empowerment Committee. This is because the work of the committee is really about empowering people to do something. It is about giving people the strength and courage to stand up for what they believe.

Many people say that they cannot do anything to change the situation in Yeoville Bellevue. Many people say they are scared to tell people that they shouldn't litter or urinate in the street. They say they cannot complain if someone is making a lot of noise because they might get assaulted. They would rather move out than try to change things.

This means that people feel they have no power. So the committee wants to show people that they do have power and they can use that power to change things.

Power comes from knowledge. So we as the Yeoville Bellevue Community Empowerment Committee will work with Yeovue News, community organisations like the CPF and YSF, ward councillors and municipal officials and anyone else to help people to get the information they need about the law and about their rights. We want to help people in the community to understand that they can do something, that they have the power to change things, and that, together, the people of Yeoville Bellevue can make the area a safe, law-abiding and caring place.

Contact details: Simphiwe Naki (chair): 0710481483. Yeovue News office: 24 Rockey St, 011 4870269, yeovue.news@yeoville.org.za. We invite you to join the Empowerment Committee and work with us for a better Yeoville Bellevue for all.

Rivers running through Yeoville Bellevue

Over 120 years ago, when Yeoville and Bellevue were first developed, there were probably small natural rivers flowing through the area. We have rivers again today, but now they come from broken fresh water pipes and overflowing sewerage outlets. MNCEDISI NTULI reports.

Water is a precious resource, especially in South Africa. It is imperative to our survival and we have to preserve it. We also need to look after our streets and prevent the increase in erosion and potholes.

Every day you can see water flowing through the streets of Yeoville Bellevue, even though there has been no rain for weeks. And our streets are getting damaged as a result.

Thousands of litres of fresh water are wasted everyday because of burst water pipes. Sometimes the water runs for days before it is reported and someone comes to fix the problem.

There is 'grey' water (this is dirty water coming from sinks, basins and baths) which is allowed to flow into the streets. There is sometimes raw sewage, with human waste and filthy toilet paper floating down our gutters.

This is often from buildings with blocked drains. The drains are blocked because people put all sorts of wrong things into their sinks and toilets that should rather go into their dustbins.

There are also people in houses, blocks of flats and business premises who allow 'grey' water and raw sewage to go out into the streets on purpose - they often run pipes from their properties into the gutters for this purpose. This is illegal and must be stopped.

Dirty water running through the streets is a serious threat to our health - it could even get into our drinking water, spreading disease in the community. It damages our roads, which costs a lot to repair. In addition, the potholes are a risk to cars.

Some water leakage is caused by people who steal pipes and water meters. They do

not think about the damage they are doing. They are only thinking about the few cents they will get from selling the metal.

We live in this community and have to take care of it. We should each take care to not cause drains to be blocked or water pipes to leak. We should also talk to our neighbours if we see water coming from their property and ask them to fix the problem. We should also report the leakage to the municipality or Joburg Water or Joburg Roads as soon as possible to stop the problem before it gets bad.

If we see blocked drains in and around where we live, we have to report it. If it is from a block of flats, speak to the caretaker. Speak to the Ward Councillor or an urban inspector, or call the City of Joburg directly.

- **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** Sihlewele Myeki 076 5174596
 myekis@vodamail.co.za
- **Ward 73 Councillor** Marcelle Ravid 084 3550826
 mravid@axxess.co.za
- **Joburg Connect**
 Tel: 011 3755555 (always ask for reference no.)
 joburgconnect@joburg.org.za
- <http://www.johannesburgwater.co.za/>

Liquor license applications

1. **Name of applicant:** Samuel Siphon Mthethwa.
 2. **Name of business:** Arugo Guesthouse and Entertainment Venue.
 3. **ID Number:** 6502095699087.
 4. **Address:** 38 Ellis Street, Bellevue, Johannesburg
 5. **Type of license:** Hotel Liquor License or section 28 1 (c) or any other license the board may deem appropriate.
 6. **Educational institute closer than 1km:** Observatory Girls School ± 1 km.
 7. **Places with similar licenses closer than 1km:** Hunger Jack Inn ± 400 m.
 8. **Faith-based institutions closer than 1km:** St Aidans Anglican Church ± 400 m, a church on St Georges Road ± 400 m
1. **Name of applicant:** Catherine Dibakwane.
 2. **Name of business:** Motimalenyora Pub & Restaurant.
 3. **ID Number:** 6104010509085.

4. **Address:** 70 Rockey Street, Yeoville.
5. **Type of license:** Pub and Restaurant.
6. **Educational institute closer than 1km:** N/A
7. **Places with similar licenses closer than 1km:** N/A
8. **Faith-based institutions closer than 1km:** N/A

Please note: applications are not complete as both premises are less than 1km from more than one educational institution and more than one faith-based institution. Also note that the second application is for premises in Bellevue, not Yeoville. Objections should be delivered to the Johannesburg Local Committee of the Gauteng Liquor Board, 3rd Flr, Nedbank Building, 85 Main St, corner of Simmonds, Johannesburg before 20 July 2011. Objections can also be delivered to the Yeoville News offices, 18 Rockey Alley, 24 Rockey St.

Classifieds

STOP RENTING OWN YOUR PROPERTY

Stunning 3-bed flat (new kitchen & bathroom) High St, Berea North, asking R380 000 neg.
 1-bed flat, Page St, Yeoville (next to police station), asking R220 000 neg.
 3-bed house, Dunbar St, Yeoville, R600 000.
 Call 072-4755355 for an appointment to view.



proactive property management

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 info@refreshrealty.co.za

Yeovue News

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