

MEC Manana promotes library services in Mpumalanga

STAFF WRITER

DWARSLLOOP - The promotion of library services in Mpumalanga received a shot in the arm with the launch of the Friends of the Library Programme recently. The Friends of the Library programme is designed to ensure integrated coordination and relations between the library and the communities and also reinforce community participation and promote ownership. "We are launching this programme to create awareness and foster a culture of reading in communities. Central to this is to

encourage our people to read and write in indigenous languages, said Culture, Sport and Recreation MEC, Ms Sibongile Manana at the launch of the programme at Mafemani Public Library on January 21. Ms Manana added that apartheid system had turned people and leaders against using indigenous languages. "Nowadays some leaders find it difficult to communicate with our people, let alone writing in indigenous languages," she said. Members of the Friends of the Library signed a pledge to

promote libraries and the services they offer to the public. The programme has been rolled out to 45 libraries and it is envisaged that in the near future it available in all public libraries in the province. Friends of the Library falls under the Fundza For Fun Project, which is aimed at encouraging communities particularly schools to access public libraries. Through this project, the department fights illiteracy and equips public libraries with relevant and current reading materials. Other programmes under the project are

Translation of Children's Book, Service to the Blind and partially-sighted and Writer's Development Project. Earlier, Ms Manana together with her counterpart at the Department of Education, Ms Reginah Mhaule, Mayors of Bushbuckridge and Steve Tshwete local municipalities, Cllrs Renias Khumalo and Cllrs Michael Masina respectively, took part in a fun walk in Dwarssloop, which was aimed at promoting reading and encouraging people to use libraries. According to Ms Manana,

libraries have a direct contribution to the lives of our people as they expose them to available opportunities for education, employment and social-economic programmes. The fun walk started at the civic centre and saw MEC Manana and her entourage donating books to Twalakule and Nkwekwezi primary schools as well as to members of the community. The donations were aimed at giving the schools a head start to start their own libraries.

COMMENT FROM THE HEAD OF SPORTS



Fellow Sports lovers, Businessmen, Football Legends, Political Figures, Stakeholders in the Community, Neighbouring Provinces and Neighbouring Countries may I introduce myself as the Head of Sports and Corporate Sponsorship in

Khanyisa Provincial Newspaper. I would like to welcome you all to Khanyisa Weekly Newspaper.

I thought that before I tackle anything else in Sports let me make an introduction by summarizing the 2011 highlights of the year. That was in the forefront of print and electronic media Headlines and it also had good and bad impressions in the Communities local and abroad.

Thereafter we will start with our short and long term programmes from next edition, like the talent search in the Community in partnership with youth and Development stakeholders in Gert Sibande and our entire

Municipalities in the Province, I sincerely would like to work hand in gloves with the community so that we can together identify other projects in Sports from where you are to enhance and speed up the process of our projects. My belief is that there are many talented players in the Province who are ready to play for Professional Teams but it is still a closed agenda because they are not sported as yet or no one wants to take responsibility for these multi-talented players.

The Vision is to create local sports tournaments, monitoring the schools sports that are lined up in our short and long term programmes, so we can establish

Another Happy Jele, Rooi Mahamutsa, Surprise Moriri, May Mahlangu, Mandla Masango and many more who today are the ambassadors of Mpumalanga Province in the Premier Soccer League and abroad can still be made. If this vision can be a success no stone shall be left unturned in searching for this talent. Please do it now by sending your comments, questions on stories, and also you can send news of any sporting events for us to cover through our Newspaper.

I can be glad if you can send your invite of an event to the office or to our satellite offices across the District. Yours in Sports and Community

Till next week, I remain.

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 Head of Sports and Corporate Sponsorship Manager (Sports)
 There is a saying in African that says: Aleka ga se ma gona, Magona emaboeletsa, Nwana phosa dira ga bolawi"
PORTS UNITE THE ATIONS- LET THE GAME BEGIN>>>

STOCK THEFT UNIT ON THE OFFENSIVE MODE

Members of the stock theft unit from the South African Police Service in the Gert Sibande Region kicked of the New Year in offensive mode. A joint operation took farmers and stock owners by surprise on Friday morning, the 13th of January 2012, at the Standerton Stock Auction. The team members from Bethal, Ermelo, Warkastrom, and Standerton, headed by Captain A Sikhosana descended on the area, stopping vehicles transporting animals to the centre following the increase of stock theft during the festive season.

The unit has intensified law enforcement requiring all animal owners to strictly adhere to the identification of animals in terms of the Animal Identification Act No. 6 of 2002. This Act of the law requires all animal owners to apply for a registered identification mark which will act as the first line of defence against stock theft. This enhances identification of property and traceability of stock in the event of theft. During the operation all the vehicles were searched to check on unmarked animals. If found not bearing identification marks, owners were fined substantial amounts of money and animals were turned away from the auction. Captain Sikhosana said, "It is compulsory to mark all cattle, sheep, goats, pigs. Farmers,

farm workers and stork owners are required to adhere to this as a requirement of law." He further pointed out the advantages of visible legal marks as a deterrent to stock theft. He highlighted that stock thieves are more inclined to steal animals that are not marked with positive identification and that where suspects were apprehended, it was difficult to ascertain proof of ownership making it difficult for the police's duty for more effective policing and effective recovery.

How to register for the identification mark All owners must apply for a registered identification mark by obtaining an application form from the Stock Theft Unit of the SAPS and at Magistrate offices around the country. The minimum fee of R120 is paid by the applicant. Once the process is completed, the mark is placed on a computerised National Register of the Animal Identification System. The Stock Theft Unit is calling on all animal owners to apply for the identification mark as random visits and on-sight inspection will be carried out on the farms. Failure to comply will result in owners paying heavy fines. For more information please contact Captain Sikhosana on 079 692 0621 or the Stock Theft Unit Officer on 017 7129309.



NO NONSENSE: From Left to Right: Warrant Officer P Motaung, Warrant Officer D Mahoney and Constable M Motaung

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