

# WARD 5 NEWS

NEWS LETTER SUMERY  
OF 2010

DECEMBER 2010

## Fire Protection Association receives New Fire Trailers from Midvaal Municipality.

At a recent meeting of the Midvaal Fire Protection Association II held at the Meyerton Fire Station on 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 notification was given that we as an FPA have officially been registered with Pretoria.

It was also noted and agreed on that a new Sector (Sector 6) be created and that it would include Thorntree Conservancy, Apple Orchards and Sunset Conservancy located in De Deur.

There was also great excitement when the Executive Mayor of Midvaal Cllr. Timothy Nast officially handed over brand spanking new fire carts. Two New Carts were received for Sector 6 by Mark Hughes and Ivan Parkes and one by Sector 5 by Reg Humpries which includes the Welverdiend Triangle Conservancy (W.T.C.) and the Welverdi-



end Forum (W.F) area's east of Meyerton and which were previously part of Sector 2. The fourth trailer was handed to Roxie Du Toit from the klipriversuikerboshrand conservancy

The Gauteng Conservation and Stewardship Association feel that as a now registered and official organization the Midvaal FPA II through partnerships with ourselves, Midvaal Fire Management, Working On Fire and Various Government Departments will now

better allow us to work hand in hand regards fire management and the control of our environment. It has been a long and sometimes difficult walk over the last 6 years but we, as representatives of Midvaal Conservancies and Gauteng Conservation are now very optimistic and look forward to a successful fire season in Midvaal for 2011.

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### Special points of interest:

- Midvaal was voted the Best place to live in Gauteng.
- Midvaal has the largest land area in Gauteng.
- Midvaal has 10 Wards, which will increase to 14 after next years Municipal Elections.
- Midvaal's Makiti hosts the largest Street Party in South Africa

## Floods cause havoc along our rivers.

For some, December 16th was a well deserved public holiday, others, a battle against the elements that caused many to think that the great flood has arrived. No I did not see any ark's, or animals filing in two by two, but for some residents of Walkers Fruit Farms, the nightmare was just as real. Our local river burst its banks, and flooded the lower part of 2<sup>nd</sup>

road, as well as the properties that border on this river. Washed away trees demolished fences, dams and gardens merged into one entity, and as a result caused knee deep flooding to one of the houses in the area. Only the ducks were having a good time. Walkers Fruit Farms, Daleside and

Henley on Klip, many house were flooded, keeping our emergency services and community busy. Many thanks to all who spent their holiday helping.



## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO ALL THE SPECIAL PEOPLE IN MY LIFE BEFORE THE YEAR CLOSES AND THE LUCKY ONES GO ON LEAVE!!



Have a look at the date... the hourglass of 2010 has run out, a year of great teamwork, planning sessions, long hours of special duties, taking hands in difficult times, praying together, laughing, having fun, celebrating successes, and also standing together in times of tears and sorrow, the death of colleagues is always hard and that is why GOD surrounds us with great people speaking comforting words that makes moments like these bearable. Our thoughts go out the widows and children in the Festive Season.

I am honoured to say April 2011 it will be three years



that I was chosen to be the Station Commander of the Station of Light, and what a journey it's been, totally relying on The King on days that I did not have answers or solutions, and NEVER EVER did GOD fail me. He kept His

promise to surround me with supportive amazing people: Family, Colleagues, Civilian workers, Reservists, CPF members, Patrollers, the Community.... WOW what a Team!! I just want to wish you ALL the best for 2011, make yourself happy, pursue your passions and be the best in what you do. Take care of yourself.....don't wait for someone



to take care of you. May God light up your life and drive you to HIS pre-Destination. No one completes you- except YOU through GOD's help. There will be mistakes along the way.....but they will also be lessons!!

So remember to love, laugh and live completely with no regret..... because true friends will always be there no matter what.....and in the end with God your happiness is determined!!

Have a blessed Christmas and an awesome new year!! May GOD be with you and your families each step of the way.

2011 - We are ready may it be the best year yet!!

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**Station of Light**

*Set your Goals High, and don't stop till you get there.*

*First say to yourself what you want to be, and then do what you have to do.*

**EPICETUS**

## De Deur VICTIM EMPOWERMENT CENTRE

The Community Police Members based at the De Deur SAPS have, with the generosity of Local Business and Individuals, renovated the existing Trauma Unit at De Deur SAPS. The Victim Empowerment Centre will be the first stop for anyone in the Greater De Deur Area, who is in need of Basic Trauma De-Briefing.



### PURPOSE OF THE VICTIM EMPOWERMENT CENTRE

To make the trauma of crime less painful. To help the victim of crime feel relaxed, in more homely surrounds, whilst taking their statement. To assist our local Police in offering support following a trauma of any kind. To be a collection and distribution point for clothing and toys for the many needy Homes and Individuals in the Greater De Deur Area



# Newly upgraded Randvaal Library offers more than just books

Midvaal's passion for books was highlighted today when Executive Mayor of Midvaal Municipality Cllr Timothy Nast opened the newly upgraded Randvaal Library in Daleside. This is the second library to be opened in Midvaal in the last 12 months and boasts fantastic facilities, as well as proud librarians who live out their passion to serve their community.

This library is centred around the community that now offers free internet access, a beautiful children's section, a small community hall, a comfortable reading corner, a user friendly reception area and an exquisite library garden known as the peace haven.

These facilities are open and available to nearby residents, including but not limited to Randvaal, Schoongezich, Highbury, Drumblade, Green Valley, Klipriver, Pendale, Valley Settlements and Daleside. Libraries like these are becoming one stop centres for communities. Through free internet access knowledge of the world

is now on the community's doorstep. With over 13 000 books available the wonderful world of reading is open to the young and old. The welcoming new layout and seating areas have created



an enjoyable environment to develop a love for books and knowledge.

Executive Mayor Nast urged the community to make use of this excellent facility as often as possible and look after it for our children and grandchildren. "Our libraries must be an inviting source of relevant information, especially to our young people. These new facilities will play a positive role in the social development of this community, it will inspire critical thinking and motivate community members to read! We envision

this newly upgraded library to become an easily accessible centre of knowledge," says

Executive Mayor Nast. This library provides for many of the community's needs, including those that do not directly relate to traditional library functions specifically

social and educational support. Many of the nearby schools do not have functioning school libraries, thus this library fulfils an important role in assisting learners with school projects, research and study facilities. In addition to this the community can make use of the hall for workshops, training, events and community meetings.

This library offers the community a peace haven, a village hub, a knowledge home, definitely so much more than just books.



## Crime Watch

by Rob Jones

### Home Security and the Christmas Holidays

Christmas holidays are a special time when families and friends come together to celebrate the season. It is also the time of year where families and

friends are most generous and practice the tradition of gift giving. It should be a joyous and happy time for all of us.

Unfortunately for us, home burglars view the holiday season a little differently. For them, it is a time of opportunity to burglar-

ize your home for cash, credit cards, and all the new gifts of small electronics, computers, jewellery, and easily sold valuables. We have already seen an increase in crime trends in the Walker-ville area.

Our Sector / Community Police will be ac-

tive over this Christmas season, but we need the co-operation of all community members to help in crime prevention. If possible, get a trusted family member or house sitter whilst you are away, movement of people help detour criminals. Let your neighbourhood or block watch know that you are away (contact

only the Chairperson) If you have a garden service, organize with a neighbour, family member or friend to be present when they service your plot.

Here are a few tips of what they look for when shopping for a house to burglarize. These tips will help you enjoy the holidays without incident.

Burglars look for an easy entry with good escape routes. Don't openly display your Christmas tree and gifts in the front window so it's easily visible from the street. It's too tempting for them to smash the window and grab the wrapped packages. Burglars look for occupancy clues like out-

**Pro 8:11**  
For Wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.



Midvaal's new Fire Truck. Rated as the most Modern unit in the South Africa



# Organization

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TO LIVE

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*Keeping Midvaal clean*



door lights burning 24 hours a day, piled up newspapers, or advertising flyers hanging on the door knob. Use an inexpensive light timer when you are away and ask a neighbour to keep the front of your home clean of papers and debris.

Burglars know to look for the hidden door key near the front entrance. Don't hide spare keys under rocks, in flowerpots, or above door ledges. Instead give the spare key to a trusted neighbour. Burglars prefer to enter through unlocked doors or windows. Sliding windows that are not secure can be seen from distance. One holiday problem can occur when exterior Christmas light extension cords are run inside through a window and prevent it from being secured. Hire an electrician or handyman to install an inexpensive exterior outlet for your holiday lights.

Don't post your family name on your mailbox or on your house. A burglar can call directory assistance to get your telephone number and call your home while in front of your house to confirm that you are away.

Don't leave descriptive telephone answering machine messages like, "You've reached the Wilson's...we're away skiing for the Christmas holidays...please leave a message." Burglars love to hear that they have plenty of time to break in and completely ransack your home.

After Christmas day, don't pile up empty gift boxes from your new computer, DVD player, or stereo receiver on the street for the garbage man. Burglars appreciate knowing that you have expensive gifts inside for them to steal. Break them down or cut them up to conceal the items better. After a lucrative burglary, the chances of being burglarized again are increased to steal the new replacement products.

Last, but not least, fortify your home by installing solid core doors, heavy duty locks, longer screws in the lock strike plates and door hinges, and install secondary security devices on all accessible sliding windows.

## We are Proud of our Midvaal

### THE HONOURABLE EXECUTIVE MAYOR, CLLR. TIMOTHY NAST

#### From the Annual Report 2009–2010

It is indeed a pleasure for me to present Midvaal's Annual Report for the 2009/2010 financial year to our residents and other interested parties.

Despite the effects of the economic recession, Midvaal continued to provide excellent levels of service delivery and completed numerous capital projects aimed at increasing our ability to service residents and businesses.

Our response to the negative economic climate included a full review of all expenditure with the aim of reducing wastage and increasing productivity and efficiency. In this regard I would like to thank Midvaal's staff for their dedication and efforts which ensured that service delivery remained at very high levels despite the reduction in expenditure.

During the financial year Midvaal embarked on the largest road maintenance and upgrading programme in its ten year history. More than 10% of the tarred network was resealed and approximately 11km's of gravel road was tarred. Due to heavy rains over the summer season monies had to be re-allocated to repair storm damage at places such as the Eisenhower Bridge in Klipriver and the Kidson Weir in Henley-on-Klip.

The upgrading of the Meyerton CBD (between Fenton and Meyer Streets) was definitely one of the year's highlights. The re-aligning of Loch Street has improved traffic flow and the



new high mast street lights have enhanced visibility and safety in the evenings. Underground services were encased and paving was replaced along the sidewalks. Business owners have responded very positively to the upgrading and a number of buildings have already been renovated to match the new and modern image of the CBD. During the coming financial year we will continue with the next phase of the project. Midvaal benefitted from a massive investment in the electricity network with the completion of the Graceview Substation in Klipriver as well as the upgrading of Meyerton's M1 Substation.

This investment has placed the municipality in a unique position as it has an abundance of spare capacity that can be taken up by investors and residents are now enjoying a more reliable supply.

The R59 Corridor remains an important focus point for new infrastructure so as to keep up with the investment demand. Various roads were upgraded and water supply to the Daleside

Industrial Park was improved with an additional pipeline.

During November 2009 the Gauteng Planning Commission conducted a survey amongst thousands of households in the province. The survey focussed on various factors affecting the living conditions and quality of life of residents. The results confirmed what we have been saying for years, namely that Midvaal offers the highest quality of life in Gauteng. This fantastic achievement has proven that in many cases smaller municipalities are able to respond more

effectively to the needs of residents than large and bulky metropolitan councils. Despite a lack of resources, Midvaal's residents, staff and councillors have forged an exciting and unique

partnership that is the envy of the rest of Gauteng and as a municipality we are excited by the many opportunities lying ahead.