

# Monthly Newsletter

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## MAYOR'S DESK



Welcome to this month's edition of the Dr. Beyers Naudé Newsletter! we bring you updates on the initiatives and events shaping our community.

This issue highlights critical developments in water and sanitation, showcasing our efforts to enhance service delivery.

We also celebrate the spirit of giving with a heartwarming handover of Christmas gifts and reflect on unity and reconciliation during the Day of Reconciliation festivities

Additionally, our Traffic Department shares valuable tips to ensure road safety during the busy holiday period.

Finally, we wish to congratulate the Matric class of 2024, for the outstanding outcomes which is, as a result of resilience and utmost dedication notwithstanding the challenges faced by the various Schools in our Municipality.

Thank you for staying connected, and we wish you a safe and Prosperous new year.

In this newsletter you can expect:

**ICROP Event: Addressing Community Needs in Ward 1 and 7 of Dr. Beyers Naudé Municipality pg 2**

**MEC of DRDAR – Handing over of Machinery – 20 November 2024 pg 3**

**Service Delivery Outreach: Opening of a Newly Paved Road in Nieu-bethesta 9 Dec 2024 pg 4**

**Minister of Water and Sanitation visited Klipplaat - 23 November 2024 pg 5**

**CHRISTMAS CHEERS TO THE ELDERLY IN KLIPLAAT pg 6**

**MEC Mvoko's Food Parcel programm – 11 and 12 December 2024 pg 7**

**Provincial Day of Reconciliation – 16 December 2024 pg 8-9 and more....**

## **ICROP EVENT: ADDRESSING COMMUNITY NEEDS IN WARD 1 AND 7 OF DR. BEYERS NAUDÉ MUNICIPALITY**

On the 13th of November 2024, a significant ICROP (Integrated Community Outreach Program) event took place in Aberdeen, focusing on the pressing challenges faced by the communities in Ward 1 and Ward 7 of the Dr. Beyers Naudé Municipality. The event brought together the honorable MEC for Social Development, Ms. Bukiwe Fanta, and various stakeholders, including community leaders, healthcare professionals, social workers, and residents.

The household profiling exercise revealed critical data about the prevalence of malnutrition among children under six. The profiling identified the socio-economic factors contributing to malnutrition, including unemployment, lack of access to nutritious food, and inadequate healthcare services. The findings underscored the urgent need for targeted interventions to support these families.

### **Community Dialogues**

Community dialogues held in the lead-up to the event provided valuable insights into the lived experiences of residents. Themes such as food insecurity, youth unemployment, substance abuse, and inadequate access to healthcare and social services were highlighted. These dialogues emphasized the importance of community involvement in co-developing solutions.

### **Direction for Services**

Based on the profiling and dialogue feedback, the event concluded with recommendations for action:

- **Nutritional Support Programs:** Expanding feeding schemes and providing nutritional supplements for malnourished children.
- **Healthcare Access:** Enhancing mobile clinic services and increasing outreach programs to address gaps in healthcare provision.
- **Skills Development:** Implementing vocational training and employment initiatives for youth and caregivers.
- **Community Wellness Initiatives:** Strengthening substance abuse programs and promoting mental health awareness campaigns.

### **Commitment and Way Forward**

The MEC, Ms. Bukiwe Fanta, commended the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders and reaffirmed her department's commitment to addressing the challenges faced by these communities. She emphasized the importance of continued engagement and the need for innovative, sustainable solutions to uplift the residents of Ward 1 and 7. The event marked a pivotal step in driving integrated and community-focused development. Stakeholders pledged to work collectively to ensure that the recommendations are translated into actionable plans that will yield tangible improvements in the lives of residents.

As the ICROP initiative progresses, ongoing monitoring and evaluation will be crucial in ensuring its success and adaptability to the evolving needs of the community.



## MEC of DRDAR Handing over of Machinery

Dr. Beyers Naudé Municipality is proud to announce the official handover of industrial sewing machines on the 20th Nov 2024 by MEC Nonceba Kontsiwe. This initiative aims to empower local entrepreneurs, promote skills development, and boost economic opportunities within our community.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to MEC Kontsiwe for her dedication to uplifting our residents and fostering sustainable growth. These resources will enable many to turn their talents into thriving businesses, contributing to the prosperity of our municipality.





## Service Delivery Outreach



Dr. Beyers Naudé Local Municipality recently conducted a successful handover of a newly paved road in Nieu-bethesta and upgrading of road Paving construction in Aberdeen on the 9th December 2024, reaffirming its commitment to addressing the needs of the community. The initiative focused on engaging with residents, addressing service delivery challenges, and providing solutions to improve essential services.

We remain dedicated to working hand-in-hand with our community to ensure progress and a better quality of life for all. Together, we are building a stronger, more connected municipality.





# HANDING OVER OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT BY HON MIN PEMMY MAJODINA



On the 23rd of November, the Minister of Water and Sanitation, Hon Pemmy Majodina, officially handed over a newly upgraded water treatment plant to the community of Kliplaat. This significant milestone reflects a commitment to providing reliable and clean water to residents, addressing long-standing challenges in water supply.

We thank Minister Majodina and all stakeholders for prioritizing the well-being of our community. This project marks a step forward in enhancing service delivery and improving the quality of life for all residents.







## CHRISTMAS CHEERS TO THE ELDERLY IN KLIPLAAT

The spirit of Christmas came alive in Dr Beyers Naude Municipality as the Special Programmes Unit hosted a heartwarming Christmas party on the 9th December 2024, in Kliplaat for the elderly. The event, held as part of the municipality's commitment to fostering inclusivity and celebrating its senior citizens, was filled with joy, laughter, and a sense of community.

The gathering provided an opportunity to honor the elderly, whose contributions to society have shaped the community over the years. The event featured festive decorations, traditional Christmas music, and a delicious meal, creating an atmosphere of warmth and togetherness.



Representatives from the municipality expressed their gratitude to the elderly for their wisdom and guidance, emphasizing the importance of initiatives like this in building a stronger, more connected community.

"This celebration is a token of our appreciation for the invaluable role our elders play in our lives. It's not just about the festivities but about creating moments of happiness and showing our respect for their contributions," said a spokesperson for the Special Programmes Unit.





## **Food Parcel Handover to the Elderly: A Gesture of Care and Support**

On the 11th and 12th December, In a heartwarming initiative to support the elderly, MEC Mlungisi Mvoko, together with the Mayor of Dr. Beyers Naudé Local Municipality, Cllr. Safers, led a food parcel handover in the communities of Willowmore, Baviaanskloof, Rietbron, and Steytlerville. This program aimed to provide much-needed relief and demonstrate appreciation for the elderly residents who are the pillars of these communities.

The event brought together municipal representatives, community leaders, and stakeholders, all united in their commitment to addressing food security challenges faced by the elderly. The food parcels, which contained essential items, were distributed to ensure that senior citizens have access to basic nutrition and support during this festive season.

The recipients expressed their heartfelt gratitude, with many sharing how the parcels would bring relief to their households during these challenging times. The program not only provided physical sustenance but also uplifted the spirits of those who received the assistance.

Dr. Beyers Naudé Local Municipality remains steadfast in its mission to address social challenges and foster a sense of community care. Initiatives like these are a testament to the collaborative efforts of government leaders and local communities in ensuring that no one is left behind.

The purpose of this handover was to offer the elderly some form of relief over this festive season with a few essentials. While ensuring that everyone gets something, due to lack of financial constraints and the focus was on a group of 200 beneficiaries this time around.



# DAY OF RECONCILIATION 16 DEC



Provincial Day of Reconciliation 2024: Honoring the Legacy of Prof. Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe

On December 16, 2024, the town of Graaff-Reinet became the focal point of unity and reflection as it hosted the Provincial Day of Reconciliation. This year's commemoration centered on celebrating and honoring the life and legacy of the late Professor Mangaliso Robert Sobukwe, a towering figure in the fight against apartheid and a symbol of resistance and hope.

The event was graced by the presence of the Acting Premier of the Eastern Cape, Fundile Gade, and the Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, Mzwandile Nyhontso. Together, they led a thought-provoking dialogue on the importance of preserving Sobukwe's legacy and the steps needed to ensure his contributions remain a guiding light for future generations.

In his keynote address, Acting Premier Gade highlighted the values Sobukwe stood for, emphasizing the need for unity, justice, and unwavering commitment to community upliftment. "Sobukwe's vision of a free and fair society is one we must continue to pursue. His ideals remind us of the strength that lies in unity and the importance of standing firm in the face of adversity," said Gade.



Minister Nyhontso echoed these sentiments, calling for tangible efforts to memorialize Sobukwe's contributions. "It is not enough to remember Sobukwe in words. We must act to ensure that his legacy is enshrined in the daily lives of our people, through education, development, and social justice," he said.



# DAY OF RECONCILIATION 16 DEC...Continued

The event was further enriched by speeches from various dignitaries, including the Mayor of Dr. Beyers Naudé Local Municipality, Cllr. Safers, and Sarah Baartman District Mayor Deon De Vos. Both leaders underscored the importance of reconciliation in fostering progress and healing historical divisions within communities.



Community members also played a vital role in the proceedings, sharing their perspectives on Sobukwe's influence and the continued relevance of his teachings. Their heartfelt contributions added depth and a personal touch to the event, demonstrating the profound impact of Sobukwe's life on ordinary citizens.

The day was marked by cultural performances, discussions, and moments of reflection, creating a space for attendees to engage with the theme of reconciliation and the principles Sobukwe championed.

As the event concluded, a shared commitment to keeping Sobukwe's legacy alive resonated among attendees. The Provincial Day of Reconciliation 2024 not only honored a remarkable leader but also reaffirmed the collective responsibility to build a society founded on equality, justice, and unity.

The Dr. Beyers Naudé Local Municipality expressed gratitude to all participants and stakeholders for making the event a meaningful tribute to a true South African hero.





## Promoting Road Safety: Festive Season Traffic Operations in Full Swing

The Dr. Beyers Naudé Local Municipality, in collaboration with the South African Police Service (SAPS), has been conducting intensified traffic control operations to ensure the safety of all road users during the festive season. These efforts included visible patrols and roadblocks aimed at promoting compliance and reducing traffic violations.

During the operations, 2,760 vehicles were stopped and inspected, resulting in 178 Section 56 notices issued for various offenses. Despite these proactive measures, the municipality has recorded 22 accidents, with the majority involving public transport vehicles. Tragically, 24 fatalities were reported, including five lives lost in a single incident on Monday, January 13th 2025, between Aberdeen and Graaff-Reinet.

To further enhance road safety, the municipality urges motorists to drive responsibly, adhere to traffic regulations, and exercise extra caution, especially during this high-traffic season.

Let us work together to ensure safer roads and protect lives this festive season.

### **NOTICE:**

For any Traffic related services, residents are reminded that offices are Open FROM Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM to 15:00PM.

Please take note Services are also available at the Willowmore Traffic Department to assist with all traffic related needs.

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# Best Wishes for the class of 2024



Cllr Willem Safers

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### Outcomes of the 2024 Matric Results

As the Mayor of Dr. Beyers Naudé Municipality, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all our learners, educators, parents, and the broader community for their efforts and commitment throughout the 2024 matriculation journey. The results reflect both the achievements and challenges faced over the past few years, with a mix of significant improvements in some schools, consistent excellence in others, and, unfortunately, a decline in performance in certain areas.

We have witnessed a significant improvement in the performance of several schools within Dr Beyers Naudé, demonstrating the positive impact of collaborative efforts and focused interventions in our educational system. Over the past few years, from 2022 through to 2024, we have seen consistent growth and outstanding results from many of our schools, with some institutions showcasing a continued excellence that is setting a benchmark for others.

At the same time, we acknowledge that some schools in Dr Beyers Naudé have experienced a decrease in their performance over the past three years. While this is a cause for concern, it presents an important opportunity for us to reassess and identify the challenges that may be affecting these schools. We are committed to working closely with educators, parents, and learners to identify the root causes of these declines and to implement effective solutions to help these schools improve and regain momentum.

Despite these varied outcomes, it is important to recognize the resilience and determination shown by all our learners. The challenges faced by some schools do not overshadow the incredible dedication of our teachers and students throughout the entire region. We are committed to creating a more supportive and empowering environment for all our learners, ensuring that every school, regardless of its current performance, receives the resources and guidance needed to thrive.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on improving educational outcomes for all. We will continue to invest in our schools, provide targeted support where needed, and work collaboratively with the Department of Education, community leaders, and stakeholders to ensure that no learner is left behind.

To our 2024 matriculants, congratulations on reaching this important milestone. We are excited to see you embark on your next journey and wish you the very best in your future endeavors. Together, we will continue striving for excellence in education across the Dr. Beyers Naudé Municipality.

Thank you.

Willem Safers

Mayor, Dr. Beyers Naudé Municipality

## DR BEYERS NAUDE MATRIC RESULTS SCHOOL PERFORMANCE 2024

