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# Zancing the Rain

Community Newsletter • July 2013

The Zanemvula housing project launched in 2006. It is an informal settlement upgrading and human settlement project in Nelson Mandela Bay. The project is located in the Chatty, Joe Slovo West, Soweto-on-Sea and Veeplaas areas and involves the relocation of residents from the floodplains of the Chatty River, backyard dwellings and other stressed areas around Nelson Mandela Bay to decent human settlements. The project will deliver 22 700 houses.

# Duty-bound community police forums make a difference

CRIME is a concern in any community but in Chatty it has become a little easier thanks to the Community Policing Forum (CPF).

The CPF has become the eyes and ears of the police and they work closely with the community to keep residents safe.

"Our CPF agents have done a lot in terms of bridging the gap between police and a community dealing with crime. Reporting crime is that much easier with trained CPF officers to assist residents," said CPF deputy chair Phumzile Mdunyelwa.

The agents are residents who volunteered for training and serve as a link between a community who does not yet have a police station of its own and the police. The nearest police station to Chatty is in Booysens Park. This police station also administers the CPF programme in the area.

"A satellite police office is being planned for Chatty. In the next few months we are hoping to get all the planning and approvals done. This office will serve as a crime deterrent, base for the CPF in the area, and port of call for other police matters like reporting of crime, certification and so on."

He said the poverty in a young and growing community like Chatty creates many social problems that lead to crime, "addressing these issues is important, but the CPF creates community involvement against crime in a healthy way".

Police patrol the area on a schedule, based on crime pattern analysis, "As important as police visibility is to keep crime at bay, so is a CPF body. Our agents are well-trained and educated. They also create awareness with residents around policing procedures."

Mdunyelwa encourages residents to take action against crime by being active in their community and knowing what to do when faced with crime, "Remember that taking justice into your own hands is not the answer."



CRIME CUTTING CREW: Deputy Chairman of the CPF, Phumzile Mdunyelwa (second from right), commends Chatty's agents for their commitment and dedication in assisting police in keeping the neighbourhood safe. From left: Vukile Ntolosi, Joan Captain and Ashwell Johnson.

#### What does the CPF do?

THE community policing agents are based at a prominent location in the area being serviced, in Chatty's case this is Alfonso Arries Primary School. It is centrally based and easy for residents to find. These agents are taught to:

- patrol the area according to the crime pattern analysis
- effectively use police resources and the 10111 number
- blockade a crime scene to protect evidence until the police arrive
- use self-defense that they are taught, rather than excessive force or weapons
- exercise precautionary measures to prohibit crime
- use two-way radios supplied to them by Business Against Crime – a non-profit and non-government organisation that is endorsed by the South African Police Service
- assist residents to understand police procedure

Anyone interested in becoming a CPF agent can contact deputy chairman Mdunyelwa at 078 4775 798.

### Who do you call?

IF you are a Chatty resident and you phone 10111 to report a crime, you might be put through to a Uitenhage response unit instead of Booysens Park, which is closer to you. To avoid this waste of time, you can also phone the station directly on **041 404 3000** or the relief commander on duty on **071 475 1938**. If you do not have access to a phone, make sure you know the closest CPF agent to your home.

#### uFowunela bani?

UNGUMHLALI wase Chatty xana ufuna ukubeka icala, inombolo u 10111 ngelinye ixesha ayiphumeli eBooyseens Park ikukhuphela eTinarha. Ukubaleka esisehlo nodlala ngexexha kungcono ufowunele ngqo isikhululo samapolsa Park ngenxa isesona eBooysens sikufuphi eChatty ku 041 404 3000 okanye umphathi wesikhululo okhoyo ku 071 475 1938. Ukuba awuginisekanga okanye ngenombolo awunandlela yokusebenzisa ifowuni.kufuneka uzazi i-community police forum agents (CPF) ezihlala kufuphi nawe.

# Alcohol abuse awareness

THE irresponsible use of alcohol causes many problems in families and often leads to domestic violence and criminal behavior.

"Alcohol is made to look very attractive in the media. However, the damage that alcohol can cause to you and your family is not attractive at all," says social worker, Melany van Rooyen who has over 13 years experience in her field.

Identifying the problem is the first step, which is why it is important to know the signs of alcohol abuse, "Once you have done that, you need to know where to find help for you or your family member so you can prevent the problem from getting worse," she said.

How do you know someone has an alcohol problem?

- When it has a negative impact on work often absent from work on Mondays and after public holidays
- · When the person smells of alcohol
- · When the person's normal way of talking is affected
- · Other physical signs are tremors or nausea
- · When it damages family relationships
- When money is spent on alcohol and not on essentials
- · When a person has to drink daily or every weekend
- · When alcohol use is a secret, lies are told about it
- When a person cannot control him or herself when they drink alcohol

#### Who can you contact for help?

- Department of Social Development: 041 406 5700
- South African National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence (SANCA): 041 364 1974
- · Your nearest clinic

#### Your house is ready; we are looking for you!

THE HDA has completed houses, but we cannot find the owners. If you are one of the beneficiaries still to receive a house, please contact us to claim your new home. You can enquire at the council ward office, or visit the HDA office on Tuesdays and Fridays, between 8:30 and 16:00. Alternatively ask your community liaison officers for assistance. Phone Nobuntu on 041 393 2600 to see if your application has been approved.



PARK PALS: Chatty youngsters are already enjoying the park, taking full advantage of a sunny day. From left: Anda Siyona, Siphelo Khetye, Sivenathi Khetye, Anele Siyona and Siyabonga Gongxo.

## Playing park a big hit

RESIDENTS are excited about the addition of the new Chatty play park for children. An area for the play park has been fenced and levelled as part of a Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM) park's project.

The initiative, that also includes the ward councillors, will improve parks around the city with proper fencing and will clean as well as level parks where needed.

"The purpose of this park is so kids can play in a safe area and the community has a place to be proud of," said Gary Johnson, managing director of Afrisec Group that is heading up the fencing for the project.

At the moment the park is an enclosed area but it will soon also be grassed, "Once this part is done, budgets need to be drawn up for swing sets or whatever the community needs in the park. For now, there is a safe place for kids to go play other than in the street."

# Project Update as at June 2013

THE Zanemvula mega-housing project in Chatty, Joe Slovo West, Soweto-on-Sea and Veeplaas is divided into four programmes and will deliver about 22 700 houses:

- the construction of 13 327 new houses in Chatty extensions 3, 4, 5, 12, 13 and 15, Joe Slovo West and Kwadwesi Extension.
- the informal settlement upgrade of about 1 565 houses.
- the rectification of about 7 500 houses in Soweto-on-Sea.
- · the erection of some 323 rental houses.

#### Soweto-on-Sea rectifications

- 2 500 houses to be rectified.
- 1 775 units have been rectified to date.
- 6 rectifications were completed in June 2013.

#### Soweto-On-Sea Multi-Purpose Community Centre

 The R22-million project was completed last year and handed over to the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. Requests to use the centre are to be made to the NMBM Facilities Manager on **041 506 2911**.

#### Chatty 1347

- The project is now complete.
- The total number of contractor handovers is 1 339 houses.
- All sites are fully serviced, but 8 could not be built on as they were too steep.

#### Chatty 1380

- 1 380 houses to be built.
- 71% of beneficiaries have been identified and the municipality will identify the remaining beneficiaries.
- 403 houses have been completed and handed over to beneficiaries to date.
- 820 foundations, 735 wallplates and 708 roofs completed.
- 1 082 households have been relocated to date.

#### **Chatty Multi-Purpose Centre**

• Contractors have been procured and funds for the building have been applied for.

#### **Chatty 496 Services**

- 99% of sewers have been installed.
- 99% of water lines laid.
- 95% of connections laid.
- 100% of roadways cleared 80% completed.
- Project completion anticipated early July.

#### Joe Slovo West 4040

- 4 040 sites to be serviced.
- The contract is now 42% complete, with the equivalent of 1 676 sites serviced.

# BHODHA SAYITALL What keeps your neighbourhood safe?



#### Nandipha Mbatsha

Njenga na kweyiphi na indawo esihlala kuzo kwasoloko bekhona abantu abangalunganga kodwa ngethamsanga mna andikacha-phazelwa yinto. Imingweno yam kukuba sibene sikhululo samapolisa esikufutshane oko ba sifake izikhalazo zethu, sigximfize namaphepha abalulekileyo.



#### Julius Mtwisha

Kungcono ukuba necommunity policing forum nje nge yethu ngoba badlala indima enkulu ukuqhagamishela amapolisa noluntu. Ndiyazincoma ezi community policing forums kuba ngabona bantu bayaziyo ukuba kwenzeka ntoni apha esixekweni kwaye baziindlebe namehlo ethu apha eluntwini.



#### Reuben Menzeleli

Police patrolling our streets help keep the criminals away and makes it safer for us to live here. The patrols help eliminate crime before it is committed, because when police are visible, people are hesitant to do bad things. They know they are being watched.



#### Diana Smith

Ons verwag nie dat die polisie heeltemal verantwoordelik is vir ons veiligheid nie. Ons moet van ons kant ook doen wat ons kan om misdaad te voorkom. Ons leer die kinders, byvoorbeeld, om in bondels huis toe te stap en nie alleen nie. Dit verhoed dat hulle makliker kan beroof word.



Yonela Nomachiwa

As a community, everyone watches each other's homes – it keeps people honest knowing they are being watched. No one in our community has had a break in, so it must be helping. The community policing forum also does their patrol. That helps too.



XANA SISONKE SIYOMELELA: Umhlali wase Chatty uJulius Mtwisha ubonile kubaluleke ka ngakanani ukuba ne-Community Police Forum (CPF) eluntwini, waba sebulela nesekela sihlalo we CPF uMr P. Mdunyelwa ngemisebenzi yabo encomekayo ekuhlaleni.

"Ndakhe ndabona abafana abathile bezenzela kwenye yezi zindlu zintsha zakhiwayo kodwa ndoyika ukubafunza. Ndayigonda ubomi bam bungase sichengeni.'

uMtwisha uthe wakhumbula elinye ilungu le Community Police Forum (CPF) elihlala kufutshane, waya kulo uyokuchaza obubusela benzekayo ukuhlaleni. Amapolisa abizwa, nabomphuli mthetho babanjwa.

"Amapolisa asinokuwabona kwindawo yonke ngamaxesha onke kodwa ngentsebenziswano ne-CPF, singabahlali siziva sikhuselekile" esitsho ngombulelo ongazenzisiyo.

GETTING TOUGH TOGETHER: Chatty resident Julius Mtwisha has learnt first-hand how beneficial it is for his community to have a CPF agent and he thanks CPF deputy chairman Phumzile Mdunyelwa for this.

"A while back I saw some guys stealing stuff from an empty house. I did not confront them. I knew it might be dangerous," he said.

Instead, Mtwisha went to the CPF agent who lives down the street and reported the crime, "I recognised one of the criminals. My neighbour knew who to phone and we reported it. It wasn't long before police came to arrest him.

We cannot have police patrolling our streets all day, so having the CPF really helps our community deal with crime in a safer way."

# Clinics near you

WINTER is always a busy time of the year for local clinics. There are a number of clinics within the Zanemvula area and a few in the surrounding areas.

They offer a full range of care to families. This includes family planning, immunisation, treatment of sick children, supplying antiretroviral treatment and caring for chronic illnesses. Clinics are also equipped to assist with some emergencies. The service they provide is free and staff are there to help the public achieve better health and educate them in the process.

Clinic hours are 7:30am to 4:00pm. Clinics in the surrounding areas include:

Chatty Clinic in Dullisear Street 041 481 2111

Veeplaas Clinic in Kani Street 041 464 1529

**Zwide Clinic in Johnson Street** 041 464 1732

Soweto-on-Sea Clinic in Mbanga Street 041 464 6021

Booysens Park Clinic in Auburn Road 041 506 2700

Booysens Park Clinic 2 in Booysens Park Drive 041 483 1590

Mobile clinics that focus on child and infant care visit Chatty 11 across from Alfonso Arries Primary on Wednesdays and Chatty 12 near the construction site on Thursdays. The mobile clinics are in the areas between 9:00am and 11:00 am.

# Phumzile is on patrol

EVERY month Zanemvula introduces you to one of the people who impact on your lives, be it directly or from behind the scenes. We have taken a look at the Housing Development Agency's (HDA) employees and also other prominent people who play a role in the community's lives.

This month we take a look outside the doors of the HDA and have found another influential person we'd like to introduce



CRIME BUSTER: Deputy chair of Booysens Park community policing forum for Chatty, Phumzile Mdunyelwa.

you to. Holding two positions within the community policing forum Phumzile Mdunyelwa believes this body is vital for it keeps young communities in the Zanemvula project safe.

# What did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be a lawyer. I have a great

passion for the fight against abuse of women, children and the elderly, so I am 'advocating' for them through what I do.

# Why do you enjoy being a CPF officer and what does it mean to you?

I did not have much growing up so I enjoy working with people who do not have much, but are full of spirit and willingness to play a part in the well-being of their communities. The community policing forum has brought the police and community closer together.

#### Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Port Elizabeth and live in Kleinskool.

# Are you married, how many kids do you have, if any?

I am married and have three children with my wife. I have eight other children. Family is important to me. Even when I am busy at work, it is important to always make time for family.

#### What was your first job?

I first worked at the Eastern Cape Learning Development Centre and then at Mzingizi Development Trust. I realised I wanted to do more within the community. I had more to offer, which is when I decided to become involved in the community policing forum. It is important for people to feel safe in their environment.

# What challenges do you face in your work within the project?

Social problems such as poverty are

root causes of crime. It is crucial that these problems are dealt with. However, we can also promote involvement from the community in these issues. This is why the CPF provides a partial solution for the problem until we can find solutions to the poverty.

# **Describe yourself in three words?**Innovative, enthusiastic and workaholic

#### Who is your role model and why?

Mr Gotyi is a mentor I had in my youth in the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation. I do not recall his name as I called him Mr Gotyi, but I remember what he taught me – a man's worth is told by how he treats others. When you have more than others, you share it so that everyone may have a little, rather than one having everything and another having to go without. Help others, even if they can't do anything in return.

#### What is your life motto?

I live by what I learnt from Mr Gotyi. I also believe in doing the best you can in everything you do.

# Do you want to share a message with the Zanemvula readers?

Make yourself aware of the CPF members in your community, they are there as a link between the police and you in order to better your safety. Whatever you do, remember vigilantism is not the answer, do not take justice into your own hands.

### Useful contact numbers

The Housing Development Agency: 041 393 2600

#### Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality:

Customer Care (all hours): 041 506 5555

Service Delivery Centre (all hours) - for water, sanitation

and all other services: 0800 205 050

**Human Settlements Eastern Cape**: 043 711 9500

Emergencies: Call from cell phone: 112

Childline: (help when a child is in danger) 08000 55 555

Eskom customer care: 0860 037 566

**Public transport information**: 0800 656 463 **Land Invasion**: Macdonald 082 4105 066 /

Hlela 079 4900 531

Fire: 041 585 2311

Water Leaks, Power outage etc: 0800 205050

General Emergencies: 041 506 2735



### human settlements

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