

Community News

Clean-up campaign to increase environmental awareness



In an effort to increase environmental awareness, the Metsimaholo municipality has on the 22nd of November 2022, embarked on a clean-up campaign for the greening and beautification of Metsimaholo municipality. This on-going campaign will take place around all places including Denneysville, Oranjeville and all the Townships in the Metsimaholo municipal area.

The head of Administration, Adv LMA Mofokeng said, "Littering and illegal dumping remains a challenge for the municipality and has a negative effect on

both the environment and people".

Advocate LMA Mofokeng has urged the residents to refrain from illegal dumping and littering in order to be able to attract potential investors for job opportunities.

The Executive Mayor, Cllr. Jeff Zwane appreciated the work being done by various stakeholders of Metsimaholo Municipality and the high turn-out.

Councillor Jeff Zwane requested members of the community to come join the campaign by taking part on cleaning the Municipality.

- *Metsimaholo municipality*

Partnership drives vaccination campaign



The Department in partnership with University of South Africa hosted a three-day Free Vaccination Campaign for Fauresmith Livestock Commonage Farmers this past week vaccinating about 433 cattle. The importance of the said free vaccinating livestock is to assist the commonage to improve livelihood of their animals and also to avoid costly treatment for diseases that can be prevented.

The following vaccines were administered are *Supavax* for the active immunisation of (cattle) in case there are cattle and sheep against anthrax, botulism and blackleg.

The other vaccine is *Pulpyvax* for the active immunisation of sheep and goats against pulpy kidney disease.

Vaccination is vital in promoting both animal health and animal welfare.

Men called to champion fight against GBV, spread of HIV

Social Development Minister, Lindiwe Zulu, says men are champions of change in preventing the spread of HIV, and addressing gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF) in communities. "One of the key tasks in preventing gender-based violence in all its forms is to enlist the active participation of men in all communities throughout the 52 districts and metropolitan municipalities of our country," Zulu said in Parliament on Tuesday.

She was addressing the occasion of the National Men's Parliament. The Minister commended the participation of men who have voiced their commitment to non-violence. "Toxic masculinity puts pressure on boys to be tough and emotionless. These societal constructs of what it means to be a man are extremely harmful to the boys who are being socialised into them, to the men that they become, to our families and to all of society," Zulu said.

She said all men can play a part in dismantling the stigma around mental health by supporting men to access psycho-social support services, particularly mental health support. "It is really important that we do that because men in general are less likely to seek assistance when faced with family, health, societal, and economic challenges. It is particularly important that we have met here over the last two days to foreground men's agenda and to reflect on the state of the South African men.

"Gone are the days when men were only seen as providers or disciplinarians in families. Men have a critical role to play, particularly with respect to correctly nurturing and socialising their children." Zulu said men who champion change help in the fight against the multiple social challenges such as HIV, substance abuse and child pregnancies. "They are not part of these problems. They are on the side of the positive solutions; real solutions that go to the heart of manhood are needed. This starts with building safe spaces by men, for men and with men.

Zulu said the perceptions of being overlooked when employment and empowerment opportunities arise are real among men. "These frustrations, which turn into violent expressions, need alternative avenues and language [of expression]... We do know that many men do not abuse their partners and children. These are the men who continuously strive to embody respect and dignity."

The National Men's Parliament is part of Parliament's initiative to address sector-specific challenges in order to develop a coordinated national plan of action on the role that men should play in the fight against gender-based violence.

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