

LETTERS

Councillor's claims untrue

YOUR profile of the councillor for Ward 9 is somewhat far from the truth and the major responsibility lies with the Editor.

It should be clearly stated that the featured councillor is not the ward councillor, but the proportional representation (PR) councillor.

It is noted that this particular councillor has claimed to have delivered a number of facilities to the residents of Ward 9.

The water and sanitation project was made possible by external funding and was initiated during the tenure of Cllr Gillian Noyce and not the present ward or PR councillor. To lay claim to this project is simply incorrect.

The community hall mentioned in the profile is the Kwadinabakubo Hall. This hall was severely vandalised and had stood unused for many years. Last year the ward councillor applied for funding for its rehabilitation and the ward was granted R500 000 for this purpose. Work on the completely-revamped hall was completed a month ago. For the PR councillor to claim credit for this is patently untrue.

Apart from the hall already mentioned there are two other halls in the ward, one at Lower Molweni and one at Wushini. Both halls were

constructed long before the present 2006 term of office commenced so no currently serving councillors can claim credit for their construction or delivery.

There are four clinics in the ward, all in existence long before the present 2006 term of office.

The taxi rank in Upper Molweni is in Langefontein on the intersection of Inanda and Thsikwama Road and was completed years ago.

No new roads have been constructed in the ward and any rehabilitation of existing roads has been initiated by the ward councillor.

If it is the intention of the *Ezasagagasini Metro* to profile all councillors, then it is imperative that all facts are clearly and truthfully established. What has been published is in no way correct and illustrate a somewhat laizzez faire approach to journalism.

By the way, the duly elected councillor for Ward 9 is Councillor Tex Collins.

CLLR TEX COLLINS

THE councillor profiles are based on responses from councillors and are published in good faith. We do however accept responsibility for not distinguishing between ward and PR councillors and will be doing so from now on. – Editor

ICC parking: response

I REFER to Megs Tweedie's letter in your last edition regarding parking at the ICC and The Workshop for the George Benson and Al Jarreau show.

We take Ms Tweedie's concerns about delays in exiting and exhaust fumes in the parking area seriously, and will look at ways to ensure a better flow of traffic for the next function.

We would like to forward our sincere apologies to visitors who had an uncomfortable parking experience.

Ms Tweedie states only one cashier was on duty at the Workshop car park on

the night of the event causing delays.

However, on the night concerned, the regional manager, two operation managers and a car park manager from Interpark were on duty to assist with the traffic flow.

All cashiers were on duty and the car park manager assisted personally on a cash point.

The challenge with once-off events is the number of cars trying to exit at the same time.

**Romana Fouche
Regional Manager:
Interpark**

Broken robots chaos

THE robots at the intersection of St Thomas and Essenwood roads have been out of order for more than two weeks.

This is a busy intersection as it is on a school route for many. It is difficult to treat it as a four-way stop and I have had some near misses.

IT IS UNFORTUNATE that the signals have been out for an extended period and every effort was made to expedite the repair, but the problem associated with the signal cabling and the controller took long to resolve.

**CARLOS ESTEVES
Deputy Head: eThekweni
Road System Management**

**LLOYD WILSON
Berea**

Send your letters to: The Editor, Letters, PO Box 5588, Durban, 4000; or e-mail: angamuthuv@durban.gov.za or naidoothrusha@durban.gov.za.

PROFILES: COUNCILLORS

The city's 200 councillors have begun their new term, assessing the needs of their communities and seeking ways to improve service delivery. In this, and future editions, we will profile them so that you can put faces to names and get to know them better



Name: Alex Christians (PR)
Age: 30
Family: Married with one daughter

Party: DA
Ward: 25 – Asherville, Springfield Park, Clare Hills, Sherwood and part of Sydenham.

Committees: Housing, Cleansing and Solid Waste, Corporate and Human Resources, Durban Aids Council

Ward needs: Crime is increasing, although community police forums in Asherville and Sherwood/Sydenham are helping. Unemployment, exacerbated by affirmative action. Lack of housing and inadequate maintenance of council-owned flats.

Has delivered: Helped to eradicate crime spots. Helping with repairs to flood-damaged flats. Am continuing to fight for a sunset clause for affirmative action quotas in the job market and education.

Passionate about: Standing up for the rights of all people, irrespective of their background. I live by this phrase, "I may not believe in what you say, but I will fight to my death for you to say it".

Contact: 082 372 0741, 031 207 7990 (work), alexc@telkomsa.net .



Name: Joice Nondumiso Cele (PR)
Age: 39
Family: Single with two sons
Party: ANC

Ward: 75 – Lamontville, a small part of Montclair and Wema

Committees: Masakhane and Grant in Aid.

Ward needs: Housing, especially for informal settlement dwellers. We also need to change the hostel in our ward into family units. Some people in Lamontville have been renting houses since the apartheid era – we need to change that and ensure people own these houses.

Has delivered: Part of the hostel has been changed into family units. We have built many homes.

Challenges for 2007: Finishing the conversion of hostels. There is a land shortage.

Passionate about: I am very passionate about issues affecting women. I like doing things that will help uplift women. Things such as helping them know about their rights. As a woman myself, I very much enjoy doing anything that will help my fellow women.

Contact: 031 707 5029 (home), 083 571 4877, 031 462 1042 (work), jncele@durban.gov.za .



Name: Lungile Cele (PR)
Age: Not supplied
Family: Single with one son

Party: ANC
Ward: 66 – Bluff and Clairwood

Committees: Health, Safety and Social Services

Ward Needs: A community hall and an indoor sports centre are a real priority. Ablution facilities, especially for informal settlement. Council flats for people who don't have houses.

Has delivered: More unity among the different races residing in the ward. Water supplies in areas where there are water shortages.

Challenges for 2007: Finding a solution to lower the pollution that is caused by trucks in the area.

To build a bridge at Edwin Swales Drive so that it becomes safer for school children to cross.

Passionate about: The community, especially the disadvantaged youth and women who are still oppressed under the banner of culture, that is still intimidating our women at large.

I am raising this because at some stage we need to discuss the two (culture and African women).

Contact: 083 470 3200.



Name: Nana Trythina Cele (PR)
Age: 48
Family: Single with a son
Party: ANC

Ward: 97 – Amanzimtoti
Committees: Masakhane Grants-In-Aids; Non-Sexism and Non-Racism committee.

Ward Needs: We are in desperate need of water and sanitation. We also need to build houses and roads in rural areas as well as speed humps on some of our roads.

Has delivered: We have already started the process of setting up water and sanitation in some areas. We have also started building houses and roads in some areas.

Challenges for 2007: There are many challenges that we face but the most important is to eliminate poverty in the rural areas.

We need to create more career opportunities for our youngsters.

We also need to eradicate crime so that the community can live in peace and harmony. Another challenge is to provide support for Aids orphans.

Passionate about: I am passionate about trying to meet all the needs of the community and helping them to live better lives.

Contact: 083 242 9674.



Name: Mahomed Faruk Adam (PR)
Age: 65
Family: Married with two sons

and a daughter

Party: Truly Alliance

Ward: Durban Central, which includes Warwick Avenue, Dr Yusuf Dadoo Street, Queen Street, Victoria Street, the Beachfront, Overport, Sparks Road, Alpine Road and Spring Town

Committees: Housing
Ward needs: Decent housing for people living on the streets, for example Queen Street has no access to water and toilets. It is a serious health hazard.

Fighting crime. Creating employment opportunities for the unemployed of the ward.

Has delivered: I am working on the Riverside area and have delivered very little as a PR councillor but work very closely with the ward councillors.

Challenges for 2007: Providing housing, water and electricity for everyone. Dealing with HIV/Aids and poverty.

Passionate about: I am passionate about religion, family life and serving the people.

Contact: 083 577 8648, 031 332 6150 (work) .



Name: Zithulele Wiseman Mshibe (PR)
Age: 35
Family: Engaged to be married,

with three daughters.

Party: ANC
Ward: 66 – Clairwood, Bluff and Jacobs

Committees: Masakhane, Grants-In-Aid, Non-Discrimination, Non-Sexism and Non-Racism

Ward needs: Housing. Vacant land to build houses, parks and sports grounds, upgrading roads as well as water and sanitation.

Has delivered: I have only been with council for a year. I have organised committee participation with regards to people getting identity documents.

Challenges for 2007: To help people who do not have identity documents to get them. Meet with town planning to identify vacant land to build houses for Clairwood residents.

Passionate about: Politics. I have been actively involved in politics for the past 22 years. I enjoy helping the people as well as helping the youth become more patriotic. I also love spending time with my family

Contact: 031 467 3594 (work), 082 267 2228, 031 311 2030 (fax), mshibezu@durban.gov.za .



Name: Ntombifuthi Bhengu (PR)
Age: 35
Family: Single with one daughter
Party: ANC

Ward: 49 – Eastbury, Long Cross, Helmcross, Phoenix Plaza and Ryder Valle.

Committees: Housing, Human Resources and DSW

Ward Needs: Building houses. Ward structures such as CPF's need to be established and strengthened to help in combating crime that poses a serious threat to development initiatives.

Has delivered: Established a senior citizens committee to play a pivotal role in ward development programmes. Also highly instrumental and successful in creating ward committees as part of council's endeavours to encourage mass participation in decision-making processes.

Challenges for 2007: Spearheaded the cutting of shrubs at Helmcross.

Challenges for 2007: Housing and establishing community policing forums.

Passionate about: Family and being close to friends. However, serving my community to the best of my ability will always remain my greatest passion.

Contact: 072 267 2228, 031 507 6126 (office), bhengumn@durban.gov.za .



Name: Sentrabha Stefanidis (PR)
Age: 58
Family: Widowed with a son

and a daughter

Party: Minority Front
Wards: 65 – Hillary, Bellair, Memorial Park, Mount Vernon and Coedmore and 72 – Chatsworth, Moorton, Arena Park and Wellbedacht.

Committees: Sustainable Development and City Enterprises, Local Labour Forum.

Ward needs: Halls, a youth centre, sports field, schools, housing, sidewalks and road upgrades.

Has delivered: We have built sidewalk, speed humps, and footpaths. We have also put lighting.

Challenges for 2007: Job creation and crime eradication.

We also need to build a police station. There are many informal settlements and we need to build proper houses to do away with these informal dwellings. This will create respectable places for people to live in.

Passionate about: Service delivery, job creation and creating a safe environment for women and children.

Contact: 083 786 9785, 031 403 5952 (home), 031 403 3360 (work).