



MY DISTRICT TODAY



STAY
SAFE

PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Freedom Month official launch

By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State



Minister Nathi Mthethwa address the audience during the launch of Freedom Month.

The Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture, Nathi Mthethwa, officially launched Freedom Month at Veerkerdevlei, Free State on 7 April 2021. This year's Freedom Month is celebrated under the theme: "The Year of Charlotte Maxeke: the Meaning of Freedom under COVID-19".

The event started in Brandfort where the Minister conducted a walkabout at the Winnie Madikizela Mandela Museum. It is set to attract tourists in the area and benefit the area economically.

Minister Mthethwa said this year celebrations are happening in a differently environment due to the COVID-19 pandemic whereby we have to be cautious of our behaviour in order to stay safe and protect lives.



Minister Nathi Mthethwa and the delegation doing a walkabout at the Winnie Madikizela Mandela Museum.

The Minister also officially opened the combi courts at the Tshepong stadium. He handed over the sporting equipment to schools in the Free State.

Free State Premier Sefora Ntombela who was also in attendance addressed the issues of Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF). She pleaded with community members to report GBVF cases to the police, and to leave and seek help where there are signs of abuse in their relationships.



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Michelle Mandela-Dlamini said:
"I am happy that there is finally progress in the museum."



Phokoje Rebaone said:
"The sporting equipment is definitely going to benefit the learners as most of them end up involving themselves in social ills due to not having extramural activities."



Malesa Thangwane said:

“The opening of this centre is not only a relief for the community but also for the Kempton Park Centre, which used to be congested since it was the main centre rendering all the services. The community of Thembisa and surrounding areas will now use this hub.”

PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Licensing hub open for the public

By Itumeleng Bogatsu: GCIS, Gauteng

The Thembisa Licensing Hub was officially opened for the public on 8 March 2021. The state-of-the-art facility, built in a previously disadvantaged community is not only expected to bring the much-needed relief to the community of Thembisa and the surrounding areas, but will also stimulate economic activity around the hub.

The unique one-stop-shop, which consists of a motor vehicle registration authority, vehicle testing centre and driver's licence testing centre, will

bring services closer to the people, and shorten the distance by the community to access government services.

Services offered at the hub include renewal of motor vehicle licenses, registrations of motor vehicles, deregistration of vehicles, notices of change of ownership, change of personal details, application of business registration numbers and application of traffic register certificates.



Thembisa Licensing Hub that has just been launched.

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Opening of Pholela Special School

By Mthunzi Mkhungo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala opened the state-of-the-art high tech special school in the Harry Gwala District, at Bulwer location on 30 March 2021. The Premier also handed over high-tech buses to the school for learners to be transported easily.

Pholela Special School was a response to the needs of the people of KwaZulu-Natal who identified the need for a school for children with special needs to ensure quality education for all children.

The community of Bulwer was excited about this development, a commitment that was well awaited by both the learners and

parents. Premier Zikalala was accompanied by Education MEC Kwazi Mshengu, Harry Gwala District Mayor Councillor Zamo Nxumalo and members of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature.

The building of the school boasts an investment of about R220 million and consists of an administration block, activity block, media centre, computer lab, special needs classrooms and therapy, multi-purpose centres, and accommodation facilities for learners and teachers.

The building also includes a consulting dispensary with sickbays, male and female game rooms, kitchen, dining hall and laundry.

The external works consists of covered concrete walkways, seating areas, and basketball and netball courts.

The school currently has an enrolment of 350 and caters for children with intellectual, physical and sensory disabilities.



Pholela Special School which was officially opened.



The aerial view of Pholela Special School.



High-tech buses were also handed over to Pholela Special School.

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

State-of-the-art clinic handover

By Joy Themba: GCIS, Mpumalanga



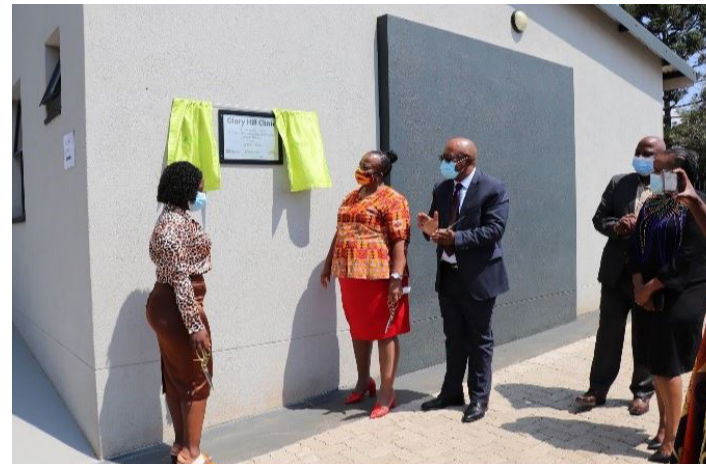
Virginia Pietersen said:

"We want to say thank you to SAFCOL for all the work they have done for us. Today we can proudly say we are grateful to be the owners of a clinic that has seven consulting rooms."



Xolani Mnisi said:

"SAFCOL has given us a beautiful place to work from with pride as nurses from Glory Hill Clinic."



Mayor Friddah Nkadimeng, MEC Sasekani Manzini and CEO Tsepo Monaheng unveil the new Glory Hill Clinic.



The South African Forestry Companies Limited (SAFCOL) handed over the Glory Hill Clinic in Graskop to the Mpumalanga Department of Health on 26 March 2021.

Mpumalanga Health MEC Sasekani Manzini was in attendance to facilitate the handover, accompanied by Thaba Chweu Municipal Mayor Councillor Friddah Nkadimeng and other government leaders.

The event started with a briefing session where SAFCOL and health officials gave an overview of how the process started, which led to the completion of the clinic, which gives communities hope and dignity.

The old Glory Hill Clinic, which was housed at the municipal building, had become unable to treat more than 3 500 people who were visiting

on a monthly basis from nearby farms and villages in the remote parts of Graskop. Patients never had privacy in the previous clinic facility, as it was an open space where all the services were rendered in a hall-like structure.

To respond to this challenge, SAFCOL built the state-of-the-art clinic right next to the police station for the safety of clinic facility and staff, at the cost of about R3 million.

SAFCOL CEO, Tsepo Monaheng, said, "Our communities have hosted forestry companies for many years hence the reason we as SAFCOL, decisively embrace this shared responsibility with government to act against the pandemic in our host communities. We are extremely proud to hand over the Glory Hill Clinic to the Department of Health as we

are reassured that members of the community will get the necessary and adequate healthcare services during this crisis and well beyond the pandemic. This state-of-the-art facility is proof of how we succeed when institutionalising cooperation between forestry companies and doorstep communities. We can progress together for prosperity.”

The facility consists of a patient registration area, waiting room, admission room, observation rooms, emergency rooms, five consultation rooms, pharmacy, staff kitchen, ablution facilities, data server room and patient record room. It also boasts a brand new neonatal ward, complete with delivery rooms, bed for antenatal room, which has a baby booth and a bathroom with shower. Furthermore, the clinic is equipped with a 20 000-litre water reservoir and an emergency generator with a diesel capacity of 2 000 litres.

This improved establishment comes at a very crucial time as COVID-19 numbers increase and community members need an accessible healthcare facility where they can be tested. The handover of such a facility at this critical time, is indeed appreciated and will be very beneficial also in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic.



One of the consultation rooms at the new Glory Hill Clinic.