

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION



agriculture

Department of
Agriculture
FREE STATE PROVINCE

A GRI FLYER
Internal Electronic Newsletter

It's spring, we are expecting rain after the August month to clean all the dust... how about all the employees can start a new leaf, change our attitude to towards life. We have bring futures ahead of us, lets think about. Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without humble but reasonable confidence in own powers you cannot be successful or happy. **From Chief Editor**

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GRIEVANCES AND DISCIPLINARY WORKSHOP HELD

Advocate J Phaladi from the Office of the Premier and Advocate TE Tsoeu from the Department of Social Development facilitated a workshop on Grievance Rules and Procedures as well as the Disciplinary Code and Procedures recently.

The workshop was targeted at Executive Managers and Senior Managers of the Department of Agriculture. According to Mokete Makoko, Acting Director of Legal Services, the workshop assisted the attendees to gain a deeper insight into the dynamics of grievances and disciplinary code. This will help them to understand and handle these critical procedures. Most important, the workshop empowered the class to understand processes of CCMA, GPSSBC and the Labour.



HERITAGE MONTH

September marks the annual heritage month in South Africa, where south Africans recognize different aspects of our cultural diversities. This month also provides opportunities to foster cultural pride and instill a shared identity through events undertaken throughout the month

2010 NATIONAL FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR WINNER

MS MERLE VAN DER MERWE



Merle receives an award from the MEC at the Provincial Awards

Charles Malik once said “ The fastest way to change society is to mobilize women”. This statement could never have been more clearer than what was displayed at the National Female Entrepreneur of the year awards in Jeffreys Bay, Eastern Cape recently.

The Free State Province, Department of Agriculture in particular is very proud that Merle Van de Merwe was chosen as the National winner in the category of Top Entrepreneur of the smallholder: Processing category. She processes milk for yoghurt and makes cheese at her Tuinlaagte Farm in Harrismith. She markets her products by word of mouth amongst her neighbors, and also supplies restaurant and delicatessens around Harrismith and in Clarens.

This hilarious farmer started business way back in 1995, she has since dedicated her time and energy in Agricultural sector. She now handles over 1000 pints

milk on a daily basis, compared with the 50 pints she started with. When she was interviewed during the provincial event she emphasized that her aim is to be more efficient and she wishes to employ more people in her business and hopefully believes that the department will assist her to become the best amongst the best when it comes to processing not only in the Free State but the country at large.



The Department's officials went to present a National Award to Merle at her farm, since she could not attend the event in the Eastern Cape.

By Senate Molapo

PROPOSED EXTENSION WARD OFFICE IN WINBURG

According to Mr. Griffith P Hadebe, Assistant Director Extension, Lejweleputswa an extension ward model has been developed and presented at the SASAE conference. The model proposed that, a ward extension office must be able to avail enough space for all the officials namely; agricultural advisor, animal health technician, soil conservationist, administration clerk and a cleaner. It was further mentioned that it must have all the necessary resources such as attractive garden whereby farmers can take some notes. A boardroom or a hall where an extension officer can hold workshops, trainings, meetings and seminars with his clients or farmers is also necessary. A house was identified for the above mentioned purpose in Winburg situated at the corner of Piet Retief and Potgieter street. It is about 2km from the town and has nine rooms with two motor vehicle garages. One of the rooms can be used as boardroom. The area of the two garages is 11mx7m and it could also accommodate farmers during information days and other events. The house is currently being vandalized to a less degree. It is recommended that the house be utilised as extension ward office in Winburg although it needs thorough renovations and electrical wiring.



At the Rear of the house a demonstration garden can be established in that area. The extension officer of the area reflected that an official from public works proposed that the house should be occupied as soon as possible to restrict further vandalism. This house is recommended to be one of the best houses that could be converted into a ward extension office for Winburg agricultural farming community, although there is need for a research to check its location in relation to the distance that the farmers need to travel when looking for a service as well as their frequency to the office. If the findings prove enough accessibility of the office to the farming community then it can regarded as one of the best extension Ward model.

By GP Hadebe

Bursary holders visited by the Free State Executive Council

Free State Provincial Government recently had visited Free State Government Bursary Holders studying at different Universities and MEC Qabathe was at the University of Pretoria Campus.

The purpose of the visit was to engage in discussions directly with the bursary holders, share ideas, experiences, challenges and also to follow up on their academic progress. This was also done in order to create clear communication between students and the Free State Government. MEC Qabathe also motivated and encouraged them to work hard with aim of improving the lives of people of the Free State once they have completed their studies. This venture was also intended to enhance and strengthen the working relationship between the FS Provincial government and institutions of higher learning.

University Management expressed their appreciation for the visit, recognizing it for the worth and value adding of the Free State Government in student capital investment. They further suggested that this should be an annual event to sustain the relationship between Government and Universities.

By Zach Mofokeng

On this day, 10 September 1960

Ethiopian Abebe Bikila, running barefoot, became the first Black African to win gold in the history of the Olympic Games.

In the process Bikila set a new world record at 2:16:2. Explaining later why he ran barefoot, Bikila said, "I wanted the world to know that my country, Ethiopia, has always won with determination and heroism."



Four years later during the Tokyo Olympics, Abebe's fame has already reached all corners of the globe.

Six weeks before the big race that awaited him, Abebe was taken ill with appendicitis. He underwent surgery amid a public outcry for proper medical counsel to decide on the procedure.

The day he arrived in Tokyo, Abebe hadn't fully recovered from the surgery and limped his way down the stairs. However, the reception Abebe received from the Japanese people helped him to become the first athlete ever to win two Olympic marathons. Bikila died in October 1973.

www.sahistory.org.za

I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear. Nelson Mandela

Motheo District Office organized an information day

A workshop on the importance of entrepreneurship was recently conducted at Mantsopa Mothers's Trust in Ladybrand. Maxwell Mamphiswane, an Agricultural Economist presented the course that was themed around sound financial management principles. For example, he critically noted that debt must be used for the sole purpose it was intended for. Redirecting the debt cause long term problems in the business. Furthermore he advised the attendees to make sound decisions on behalf of their businesses. He added that making a decision is a definitive choice.



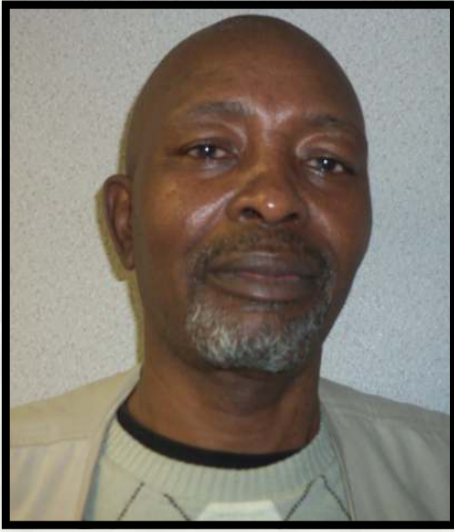
Its been a long hard winter with frost and freezing temperatures, but good news is that things are starting to heat up again with a whole lot of fun waiting just around the corner. These are spring holidays to look forward to, friends, family to see, year end parties to plan for. In celebration of all this sunny and bright summer, Internal communication edge all staff members to contribute information and articles to this newsletter so that we improve our departmental communication channel. This Agriflyer is meant to be filled to the brim with good ideas and reasons to be cheerful for. Let's celebrate this spring with vigour knowing that we have enjoyed what are here for.

IT TIP OF THE WEEK

If you have to work on a document received by email always save it first before you work on it to avoid loss. Sanet Kotze

By Senate Molapo

NEW APPOINTMENTS



Mr Mosiuoa Majara recently joined the departmental legal services directorate where he deals with Legal matters regarding farm Evictions and Labour matters. He was previously working with SAAPAWU in rural committee in assistance of farm workers



Ms Tsholofelo Melato has also joined the farming information, risk and disaster management. Tsholofelo is proud and willing to improve service delivery as she is from department of Economic, Development, Tourism and Environment Affairs still in the Free State. Her duties are amongst others capturing of climate, data and dissemination of information within the department.



Respect Khaudi Ramasimong Sehong commonly known as **Thabiki** says since he joined the department Legal Services directorate, his ambition is to help vulnerable farm workers and farm dwellers who are being evicted from the farming communities.

BELATED BIRTHDAYS

Semelane MS	01/09
Thabana MJ	01/09
Ndumo NV	01/09
Mosia NA	01/09
Mahloha PP	02/09
Mokoaqo MM	02/09
Mofokeng CI	02/09
Finger JL	03/09
Khahleli KS	03/09
Mathobisa AN	03/09
Cindi FM	03/09
Letsoa MP	03/09
Kobane MM	03/09
Dhladhla J	03/09
Leeto ES	04/09
Mayo VB	04/09
Kolisang MLJ	04/09
Mosothoane ML	04/09
Mphahlela PK	05/09
Mabisela KJ	05/09
Tetewe T	05/09
Nokgipa LP	06/09
Kubheka BS	06/09
Nkhi MR	06/09
Qabathe MG	07/09
Monokoane ME	07/09
Pelle DP	08/09
Moeketsane KE	09/09
Mabele TP	09/09

BIRTHDAYS STILL TO BE CELEBRATED

Motlhabane MK	10/09
Monchusi JT	10/09
Maerman CM	10/09
Kolobe MT	11/09
Sebiloane MA	12/09
Mokoena MA	12/09
Motlokoa S	12/09
Majeng ME	12/09
Chuatsane CP	12/09
Mofokeng FP	13/09
Makhalane SJ	13/09
Ntsoetsa BJ	13/09
Mota MK	14/09
Mokhonyane LJ	14/09
Mosia TP	14/09
Thebe KI	14/09
Lecheko LP	14/09
Khau NM	15/09
Koloi LS	15/09
Tshipo KP	15/09
Makhetha NJ	15/09
Keith LJ	15/09
Molupe M	15/09
Mbele MP	15/09
Gwili MMJ	16/09
Human HC	17/09
Mofokeng ME	17/09
Venter JB	17/09
Cilliers JA	17/09
Lekhetho SA	19/09
Cezula DS	19/09
Duma TE	19/09
Maseti SA	19/09
Matsoso SW	19/09
Motseki TA	19/09