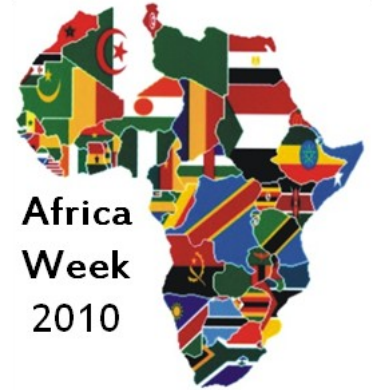




Africa Week Festival 2010



On 19 May 2008, xenophobic attacks began in Alexandra, Johannesburg and spread across the country. Within days, 66 people were dead and hundreds of thousands of rands of property destroyed. The news spread around the world, doing a lot of damage to South Africa's image. On 25 May 2008 - six days later - the world celebrated Africa Day, a day which is supposed to celebrate African unity. This year - 2010 - there is a plan to hold an Africa Week to commemorate the events of 19 May 2008 and to once again honour the goal of a united African continent.

Since the late 1990s, Yeoville Bellevue has been home to a mix of people from South Africa and the rest of Africa. So, in 1999, the then-Yeoville Community Development Forum suggested that the community celebrate Africa Day with a festival in Yeoville Bellevue. This would help to build unity amongst the people of Yeoville Bellevue, no matter where they came from, and it would help to bring money into the area, creating jobs and improving the quality of life of all its people.

After the xenophobic attacks of 2008, the African Diaspora Forum (ADF) was established to work for tolerance and social harmony and prevent further xenophobic attacks.

The ADF has suggested having an Africa Week each year. In that week, there will be a number of activities focusing on the building of unity and understanding between people through cultural and sporting events, discussion and debate. Africa Week will start on 19 May and end on the Saturday just before or after 25 May which is Africa Day. This year, the Saturday after Africa Day is on 29 May.

On 29 May, the City of Johannesburg is partnering with the African Diaspora Forum, the Yeoville Stakeholders Forum and the Yeoville Bellevue Community Development Trust to hold a pan-African Carnival and Festival to celebrate Africa Day and promote human unity and cultural diversity. This will take place in Yeoville Bellevue as it is one of the places in Joburg which has a diversity of people from all over South Africa and the rest of Africa living in it.

Over the next few weeks, Yeovue News will bring more information to the community on this event and explain how it will work and how the community can get involved. The organising team is currently preparing to open an office in Rockey Raleigh St to make it easier for the community to get in touch with them. See inside for more details.

Le 19 mai 2008, les attaques xénophobes commençaient à Alexandra (Johannesburg), avant de se diffuser à travers l'ensemble du pays. En quelques jours, 66 personnes furent tuées et des propriétés d'une valeur de plusieurs centaines de milliers de rands furent détruites. Les attaques firent l'actualité du monde entier, au détriment de l'image internationale de l'Afrique du Sud. Le 25 mai 2008, 6 jours après le début des violences, le monde entier célébrait Africa Day, la Journée de l'Afrique, censé célébrer l'unité africaine. Cette année, nous aimerions organiser une Semaine Africaine, pour commémorer le début des violences, le 19 mai 2008, et aussi pour honorer le rêve d'un continent africain uni.

Depuis la fin des années 1990, Yeoville Bellevue a accueilli une variété de migrants d'Afrique du Sud et du reste du continent. C'est la raison pour laquelle en 1999, le Yeoville Community Development Forum de l'époque avait suggéré de célébrer la Journée Africaine par un festival à Yeoville-Bellevue. C'était l'occasion de construire un sentiment d'unité parmi les résidents de Yeoville Bellevue, quelle que soit leur origine; l'objectif était aussi d'attirer le tourisme dans le quartier, pour accroître l'emploi et améliorer la qualité de vie des résidents.

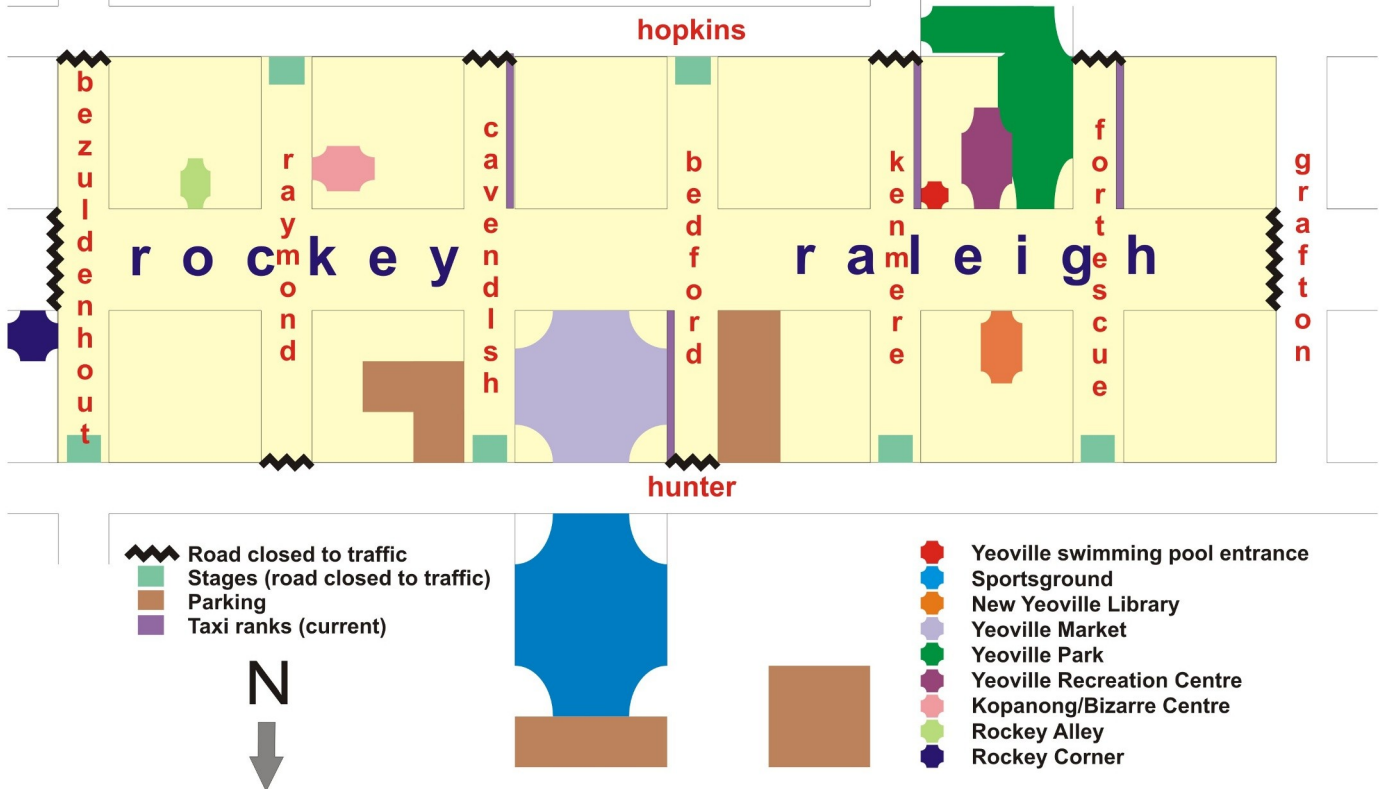
Après les attaques xénophobes de 2008, l'African Diaspora Forum (ADF) fut établi pour travailler à construire tolérance et intégration en Afrique du Sud, et lutter contre la xénophobie.

ADF a proposé d'organiser une Semaine Africaine chaque année. Au cours de cette semaine seront organisées des activités centrées sur l'unité et la tolérance entre les peuples d'Afrique, à travers des événements culturels et sportifs, des débats et discussions. La Semaine Africaine commencera le 19 mai et s'achèvera le samedi qui précède ou qui suit le 25 mai, la Journée de l'Afrique. Cette année, le samedi en question tombe le 29 mai.

Le 29 mai, la Ville de Johannesburg a accepté d'être partenaire avec l'African Diaspora Forum, le Yeoville Stakeholders Forum et le Yeoville Bellevue Community Development Trust afin de célébrer la Journée de l'Afrique, et promouvoir l'unité de l'espèce humaine dans sa diversité culturelle. Cette célébration aura lieu à Yeoville Bellevue, étant donné que c'est un des quartiers de la ville qui a une grande diversité de résidents, provenant de toute l'Afrique du Sud et du continent Africain.

Dans les semaines à venir, Yeovue News diffusera davantage d'informations sur cet événement et présentera son déroulement et la manière dont les résidents peuvent s'y impliquer. L'équipe organisatrice est en train d'ouvrir un bureau sur Rockey Raleigh Street, afin de rendre le contact avec les résidents plus aisé (voir à l'intérieur du magazine pour de plus amples informations).

Africa Week Street Festival Rockey Raleigh St Yeoville Bellevue



Proposed plans for Africa Day Festival

- The Festival will take place from 10am - 5pm in the yellow area in the map above.
- Rocky Raleigh St will be closed to all traffic from Grafton to Bezuidenhout for the period of the Festival
- Cross streets (Bezuidenhout, Raymond, Cavendish, Bedford, Kenmere and Fortescue) will be closed to traffic between Hunter and Hopkins
- Rocky St from de la Rey to Bezuidenhout will be two-way for the day to allow for additional parking
- Restaurants and other food vendors will be able to put chairs and tables on the pavement or in the streets for their customers
- Street trading (African arts, crafts, clothing, music)
- Promotional stalls (NGOs, CBOs, government services and campaigns)
- Exhibitions in the Recreation Centre and the Yeoville Library etc
- Six performance stages for cultural activities
- Special children's area, fenced off and safe for kids
- Special area for stalls selling African arts and crafts
- Parking areas will be negotiated and street parking will have car guards
- Security arrangements involving the JMPD, the SAPS and community volunteers
- Cleaning services by Pikitup and community volunteers

PLEASE NOTE: the above plans are suggestions and not yet final. The organisers will meet and discuss with all roleplayers and stakeholders to get their support and involvement. Yeovue News will keep readers informed of all ongoing developments over the next few weeks.

Meanwhile, you can contact organisers Maurice Smithers on 082 3737705 or Talla Niang on 082 9519859.

Ce que nous proposons pour le festival de la Journée Africaine

- Le festival commencera à 10h00 du matin et s'achèvera à 17h00 dans la zone marquée en jaune sur la carte ci-dessus.
- Rocky Raleigh St sera fermée à la circulation entre Grafton et Bezuidenhout pendant toute la durée du festival
- Les rues attenantes (Bezuidenhout, Raymond, Cavendish, Bedford, Kenmere et Fortescue) seront fermées à la circulation entre Hunter et Hopkins
- Rocky St, entre de la Rey et Bezuidenhout sera à double sens de circulation pour la journée, afin de permettre un stationnement plus aisé.
- Restaurants et vendeurs alimentaires pourront utiliser les trottoirs pour installer des tables et des chaises pour leurs clients.
- Des étals seront autorisés pour vendre de l'art et de l'artisanat, des vêtements, de la musique... africains
- Des étals seront disponibles pour la promotion des ONG, des associations de résidents, des services publics et des campagnes d'information
- Des expositions seront présentées dans le Recreation Center et la bibliothèque
- Six estrades seront aménagées pour des spectacles culturels
- Des espaces pour enfants seront aménagés, où la sécurité sera assurée
- Une zone spéciale pour la vente d'art et artisanat africain sera mise en place
- Des zones de stationnement seront aménagées et surveillées
- La sécurité sera assurée par la SAPS, la JMPD et des volontaires locaux
- Le nettoyage sera assuré par Pikitup et des volontaires locaux

NOTEZ BIEN: les informations mentionnées ci-dessus sont des propositions. Les organisateurs devront rencontrer toutes les parties prenantes du festival, et débattre avec eux afin de les impliquer dans l'organisation de l'événement. Yeovue News vous tiendra informés dans les prochaines semaines.

En attendant, vous pouvez contacter Maurice Smithers au 082 3737705 ou Talla Niang au 082 9519859.



ANC Youth League members clean up vacant plots in Pope St

Taking responsibility for our environment

Most people are used to hearing about the ANC Youth League through articles in the newspapers about Julius Malema and ANC politics. But here's a different kind of story - one in which the ANCYL in Yeoville Bellevue cleans up for the community.

Yeoville Bellevue has a number of empty plots - more than forty - which are mostly neglected and dirty. This is a problem for people living near by. Their properties lose value, there are health problems because of dumping and the presence of rats, criminals operate from the more overgrown sites, and some sites are taken over by illegal businesses.

The ANCYL identified one such situation - three empty plots next to each other in Pope St. They have been empty for years. They are dirty and overgrown and usually used for car repairs without permission of the land owners.

The Youth League decided to clean the site recently. Over twenty people were involved. Dressed in orange overalls and wearing gloves, they cleaned the site, putting all rubbish together in one place ready for collection.

According to Austen Ratshwene, executive member of the local ANCYL

branch, they cleaned the site 'to keep our youth busy and to reduce crime'.

The Youth League are now waiting for the local councillor to find out who owns the land and whether it is possible to carry out income-generating activities there.

Car repairers using the site are worried that they will no longer be able to make a living. Small business development facilities are needed in the area to help such emerging companies to establish themselves properly in the main business streets.

Meanwhile, Architecture and Urban Planning students from Wits University are doing study projects in Yeoville Bellevue and have been asked by the YBCDT to look at designing a possible social housing project on the land. If it is feasible, the YBCDT will propose that the land be bought for such a project. If it works, it could be a model for more social housing projects in the area.

Worried about their future

Yeovue News was recently called to Sheikh Anta Diop Primary School by the Soul Buddyz Club. They wanted to share their worries with the community.

Soul Buddyz are 8-12 year old children who care about their communities and believe that they can make a difference.

The Soul Buddyz of Yeoville Bellevue spoke to Yeovue News about two issues that worry them.

The first is that Yeoville Bellevue is very dirty and they would like to help to get it clean before the World Cup. They will help to do this through a clean-up in



early June and through raising awareness with posters.

The second is about alcohol. They think there is too much alcohol in our area. But it is hard for them to do anything about it. They will also produce posters on this issue. But they need the help of others in the community. They are worried about their future, but are willing to do something to make it a positive one.

Editorial

As readers know, Yeovue News has not come out weekly in 2010. This is because of a shortage of funds. We have come out only when a sponsor assisted us with funds for printing and distribution.

However, we will be coming out every week from now at least until the end of May. This is because of the planned Africa Week Festival which we write about in this issue. Without Yeovue News, it will be difficult to involve the community and to keep the community informed.

This week, we also cover the story of the ANCYL clean-up and the concerns of the Soul Buddyz team from Sheikh Anta Diop Primary School. It is encouraging that young people of the area are taking the initiative and raising concerns about what is happening in their suburbs.

Children and other young people in Yeoville Bellevue are very vulnerable. They grow up believing that dirt, crime, excessive alcohol use, urinating in the street, drugs, domestic violence and noise are an acceptable part of everyday life. As they get older, many of them become part of the problem - drinking excessively, taking drugs, engaging in early and unprotected sex, getting involved in crime.

To address this situation, we need three things to happen.

- There must be more education and awareness programmes, especially in local schools.
- There must be effective bylaw and general law-enforcement so that young people grow up in a well-managed environment and are made aware that illegal and criminal behaviour will be punished.
- Finally, we need programmes for youth in our area. The newly-revamped Recreation Centre must have an aggressive campaign to establish youth programmes and to involve as many youth as possible in such programmes.

The Recreation Centre should not, as in the past, rent out most of its space to churches to make money. Its primary focus must be running programmes to serve the community, even if these are not income-generating. The Rec Centre is a government-owned community facility, not a faith-based institution.

We therefore urge the Sports and Recreation Directorate in the CoJ's Department of Community Development to work with the community to establish youth programmes of all kinds (chess clubs, dance classes, theatre, debate and discussion groups, indoor sports etc). In addition, the Skills Centre, which has been standing idle for years, must have proper ongoing training programmes to help young people to get skills and become useful, employable members of society.



Update

Good news from Telkom!

Phone services have been restored, thanks to the establishment of the temporary exchange on the Yeoville Sportsground.

The other good news is that the schools and the community will soon have full use of the sports ground again. Happy Zondi of Telkom told us the following:

1. The sliding gate and pedestrian gate will be repaired to its original state. The gate is currently locked.
2. Telkom has its own entrance from Cavendish Rd and Telkom representatives will be asked to not to use the Bedford St entrance anymore. The community can now make use of the site (see points 3 and 5 below).
3. Some surface areas of the grounds were damaged by Telkom vehicles, especially when it was raining. This will be fixed (see 5 below).
4. The contractor is busy removing the soil from the excavated areas as well as the spare fencing building material. The corrugated iron building will be removed within the next two days
5. The areas damaged by vehicles will be rehabilitated. The areas will firstly be compacted and then topsoil will be placed over the damaged areas and lightly compacted.
6. Weather permitting (important for the rehabilitation portion) the site can finally be handed over to the community on 3 May.

In the meantime, St Johns School is going to cut the grass on the field and lay out a soccer field. They may possibly also lend us goal posts until the field is properly established.

Telkom Yeoville hotline - 080 1313131

More good news!

Lael Bethlehem, CEO of JDA, has told us that the completed Recreation Centre was handed back to the Centre staff this week. It is important for the Centre to become a true community facility. See the editorial on page 3 for more on this.

Community notices

Yeoville Stakeholders Forum General Meeting

5.45pm, Thursday 22 April 2010
St Aidan's Church, 59 Regent St
Visitors welcome

Community-based organisations

- **African Diaspora Forum**
Claire Benit-Gbaffou - 083 9685444
- **ANC Joe Slovo Branch (Ward 67)**
Eddie Majadibodu - 082 8093227
- **Congo Heart of Africa**
Bienvenu Ngila - 082 6675969
- **Congress of the People (COPE)**
Nolitha Majola - 082 0509464
- **Disabled Musicians Association**
Johannes Dube - 083 6897194
- **Impumelelo Cultural Group**
Bongi Kubheka - 082 7594987
- **Ivorian Community**
Marc Gbaffou - 083 5147367
- **Kopanong**
George Lebone - 079 3894409
- **National Association of Yoruba Descendants, Southern Africa** Prince Adesina, National Youth Leader 076 6928060
- **Nigerian Union South Africa** Prince Adesina Al-Amin, Secretary General, Gauteng - 076 6928060
- **Observatory Ratepayers Association** Louise Denyschen 011 2746825 secretary@gmail.com
- **Refugee Help Desk** Jean Pierre A Lukamba Om— 083 8751256 refugeesa@gmail.com
- **Ward 67 Ward Committee**
Nomaswazi Mohlala - 083 2972936
- **Yeoville Community Policing Forum**
Mbuyiseni Khoza - 082 2657435
- **Yeoville Environmental Organisation**
Joseph Setloboko - 072 1581030
- **Yeoville Muslim Community**
Hussein Musa Baza-Awe - 083 9565363
- **Yeoville Stakeholders Forum**
Cate Bompas (secretary) - 079 6105909

Non-governmental organisations

- **Mother Johnson International**
Mother Johnson - 011 4870309
- **People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA)**
011 6424345/6
- **Self Help Christian Refugee Association**
Xavier Bulimwengo - 078 4251650
- **SA Nat. Council for Alcoholism & Drug Abuse (SANCA)** 011 8362461
- **Curriculum Development Project**
Charlotte Schaer - 011 6241025
- **Christians for Peace for Africa**
Pastor Thomas-Rene Kitutu - 072 2625302
- **Yeoville Market Micro-Retailers**
Sebastian Zaremba - 072 1416411
- **Lesbian and Gay Equality Project**
Phumi Mtetwa - 011 4873810/1
- **NOAH's Ark Resource Centre, Yeoville**
Gloria Nhlathathi - 079 2330030
- **Nazareth House**
Sister Lorraine - 011 6481002

Institutions

- **Grace Community Centre** Claude Nkebi 076 6310180 claude.nkebi@yahoo.com
- **Observatory Girls Primary School**
Cnr Regent St and de la Rey St Tel: 011 4871100
- **St Aidan's Anglican Church**
Father Neo - 011 4871112
- **St Francis Catholic Church**
Cate Bompas - 011 6488794
- **St John's College**
Tsepo Matubatuba - 083 7737382
- **Sheikh Anta Diop Schools**
Jemadiri Kilele - 011 6488122
- **Trinity Congregational Church**
Zama Mpambani - 079 4274838
- **Yeoville Baptist Tabernacle Church**
011 6487325
- **Yeoville Baptist Tabernacle Youth Dept**
011 6487325
- **Yeoville Boys School**
Lindelani Singo (principal) - 011 6489901
- **Yeoville Community School**
Martha Mente (principal) - 011 6489163

Public services and facilities

- **Johannesburg Development Agency**
011 6887800
- **Region F Stakeholder Management & Liaison**
Zaabe Magwaza - 082 4679411
- **Urban Inspectors**
Yeoville North: Fikile Mdlalose - 083 4448517
Yeoville South:
Basetsana Bogopane - 083 3811359
Bellevue/Bellevue East:
Lettie Rasebeka - 083 3811435
- **Ward 67 Community Development Worker (CDW)**
Neo Setloboko - 083 9537053
- **Ward 67 Councillor**
Nomaswazi Mohlala - 083 2972936
- **Yeoville Bellevue Community Development Trust**
Maurice Smithers - 082 3737705
ybcdi@yeoville.org.za
- **Yeoville Community Clinic**
Kenmere Rd, corner Hopkins St Tel: 011 6487979
- **Yeoville Police Station (SAPS)**
23 Kenmere Rd, corner Yeo St Tel: 011 4875900
- **Yeoville Post Office**
Kenmere Rd, between Raleigh St and Hopkins St, inside the arcade Tel: 011 6489103
- **Yeoville Public Library**
49-51 Raleigh St Tel: 011 6484804
- **Yeoville Recreation Centre**
(closed for upgrading until further notice)
- **Yeoville Swimming Pool**
Corner Raleigh St and Kenmere Rd
Tel: 011 6489359

Other contact numbers

- **Black Sash**
Tel: 011 11 8348361/5
For advice and help with your rights
- **City Power**
Tel: 011 4907900
- **Emergency Connect**
Tel: 011 3755911
- **Emergency Management Services**
Tel: 011 4076374
- **Hijacked Buildings hotline**
Tel: 011 3768640 Email: patrickpho@joburg.org.za
- **Joburg Connect**
Tel: 011 3755555 (always ask for reference no.)
joburgconnect@joburg.org.za
- **Toll-Free Presidential Hot-line**
Tel: 17737

www.yeoville.org.za

Yeoville Stakeholders Forum

Executive Committee

George Lebone (chair) - 079 3894409
Amos Mbambo (dep chair) - 082 6974536
Cate Bompas (secretary) - 079 6105909
Bienvenu Ngila (dep secretary) - 082 6675969
Thubalakhe Zwane (treasurer) - 073 2779613
Neliswa Ndlovu (organiser) - 072 2938876
Joseph Setloboko (communication) - 072 1581030
Connie Tsoo (fundraiser) - 083 2561354

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