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The Herald

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Cable thieves throttling Bay businesses

Companies rethink expansion plans after prolonged weekend blackout **REPORT INSIDE**

Boks send Jantjies packing after new personal issue **REPORT INSIDE**



A NATION MOURNS: Crowds watch the cortege carrying the coffin of the late Queen Elizabeth II as it passed by Mercat Cross in Edinburgh, Scotland, yesterday. **Report Inside** Picture: IAN FORSYTH/WPA/GETTY IMAGES

Donations pour in after three children lost in shack fire **P4**



Police and partners take to streets in anti-crime drive **P5**



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 WINNERS!

NELSON MANDELA UNIVERSITY



Our citizens of the year celebrated in style

Yolanda Palezweni
palezweny@theherald.co.za

"We rise by lifting others."
That was the theme of the night as The Herald, in partnership with Nelson Mandela University, once again hosted the Citizens of the Year awards to celebrate local heroes who go beyond their means to give back to the community.

The 31st edition of the annual awards ceremony sponsored by Nelson Mandela University and SPAR was held on Friday at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Gqeberha, where 11 winners were celebrated in their various categories.

For the first time this year, there was the Sister Ethel Award, which recognised an individual who has done exemplary community work for more than 10 years in Nelson Mandela Bay.

Kolisi Foundation co-founder Rachel Kolisi was the guest speaker, while comedian Donovan Goliath had the crowd in stitches as master of ceremonies.

end Post editor Rochelle de Kock said the city had a leadership crisis which included a lack of service delivery.

Despite this, she said, there were people doing their bit to make a difference.

"Today [Friday] we are here to celebrate you, we are here to say thank you for your contribution in making a difference in the lives of the residents of the metro," De Kock said.

She said the work done by the celebrated heroes had been noticed, and she hoped the recognition would inspire others to do the same.

"People can't only rely on leaders to change things around," she said.

The awards have, for more than three decades, given recognition to ordinary individuals who selflessly serve those in need.

Prof Andre Keet, Nelson Mandela University deputy vice-chancellor for engagement and transformation, and research chair for critical studies in higher education, said the spirit of optimism and selflessness was found in the DNA of a human, though sometimes one

tended to be selfish.

"I would like to thank The Herald team for inviting the university to such a space.

"We are super-proud to be associated with this, and to our sponsors, we salute you," Keet said.

SPAR sponsorships and events manager Alan Stapleton said that during difficult times, while many struggled just to leave their homes, the winners managed to reach out to others.

He said it was amazing reading about the works of those nominated.

"To the winners tonight, know that you are special, thank you.

"In [Springbok rugby captain] Siya Kolisi's book, he speaks of how when you lift others up you rise yourself."

Sharing the message of support, Kolisi's wife, Rachel, said she was honoured to be part of the celebratory event.

She said it was devastating to read of the troubles of the Eastern Cape and the lack of leadership in the metro.

"We should never get comfortable with people struggling



and never be OK to turn our heads from issues that we know are problematic.

"If you have the ability, do something," she said.

Thrilled and overwhelmed, the various category winners agreed the night was inspiring and an encouragement for

others to follow suit.

The Herald Nelson Mandela University Citizens of the Year 2022 civil society category winner, Dr Imtiaz Soolliman, of Gift of the Givers, said it was wonderful to see ordinary people doing something so great in their city.

He said that kind of passion for the country would go a long way, and no Eskom price hikes or drought would be able to stop people from doing good things.

"It is [wonderful] to see people standing together, not worried about race, gender or cul-

OUR WINNERS: Congratulations to the 11 winners of The Herald Nelson Mandela University Citizens of the Year Awards, who were celebrated at a gala awards function at the Radisson Blu Hotel. From top left: Denise van Huyssteen (Business), Glenda Brunette (Sister Ethel Award for 10 years+ of service to the community), Gift of the Givers founder Dr Imtiaz Soolliman (Civil Society), Linda van Oudheusden (Community), Sakumzi Nyendwana (Arts & Culture), Kayla Eberhardt (Health & Safety), Isaac Metembo (Education), Thobela Thoba (Sports), Gary Koekeemoer (Innovation — environment), Ntombuzuko Jafta (Gender-Based Violence) and Garth Sampson (Innovation — water) **Picture:** WERNER HILLS

to him, and to others trying to make a difference.

"This day is for those who are trying their level best to bring change as there is so much happening in our communities," he said.

Nyendwana said there were many challenges, including unemployment and a lack of information, and such initiatives embraced those who tried to make something out of nothing.

KwaNobuhle-born social activist and community leader Ntombuzuko Jafta, winner in the gender-based violence category, said winning would change everything.

"I am so inspired, now that I am known I have already got people willing to help.

"We are thankful for the exposure as it will definitely contribute to our growth," she said.

The Herald Nelson Mandela University Citizens of the Year Awards also honoured Walmer Angel Project founder Glenda Brunette as the Sister Ethel Award winner for 2022 for her contributions to society over the past 10 years.

More pictures on Page 6

The Herald Citizens of the Year congratulatory messages

Alan Stapleton, sponsorships and events manager, Spar Eastern Cape

In a year where the world reopened with opportunities to re-engage, our city, Gqeberha has been brought to her knees through inefficiencies.

It is truly remarkable to see the amazing work being done by so many amazing people, who out of the goodness of their hearts, and often with limited resources, go out and uplift others, helping them to live normal lives under exceptionally difficult circumstances.

Spar, in partnership with The Herald and Nelson Mandela University, is privileged to be able, in a small way, to recognise and celebrate these normal people who do such extraordinary work.



Prof André Keet, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Engagement and Transformation, Chair for Critical Studies in Higher Education : Nelson Mandela University

Nelson Mandela University is delighted to be linked with The Herald Citizen of the Year, which, for more than three decades has recognised and awarded socially-minded and responsive citizens who make significant impacts within our local communities.

This orientation is consistent with the university's character of being a responsive and engaged university in service of society.

It is heartening to read about the phenomenal work being done in the region, in responding to the needs of communities.



It compels each of us to be more involved in initiatives that advance our joint public interests. Congratulations to those who advanced to the final round!

Ryan Megaw, regional general manager, The Herald & Weekend Post

Currently we are all surrounded by so many needs, and one can so easily be overwhelmed and feel powerless in the face of this.

Citizen of the Year recognises the efforts of people who despite, or maybe even because of, the challenges around them, choose to be agents of change and bring light and hope to those who encounter them.

On behalf of The Herald we applaud this year's Citizens of the Year. Their efforts have changed our world for the better.

Thank you to each of you for being the change that we need.



HELPING HAND: Ntombuzuko Mdingi, a member of Yizani Sakhe In Wells Estate Picture: AZOLA FUMBA



BRANCHING OUT: The food gardens at Moeggesukkel provide more than meals for the community Picture: DION NONYANE



DIG DEEP: Breaking new ground at Moeggesukkel Picture: HANNAH RUMBELOW



GETTING STUCK IN: The Zwide Development Forum and the Hubs of Convergence marked Mandela Day with painting a mural and other activities Pictures: SUPPLIED

This growing Zwide partnership marks Mandela Day every day

The Zwide Development Forum, the Hubs of Convergence and Nelson Mandela University Food Systems programme have joined hands to respond to socioeconomic challenges confronting the community through the Zwide Community Farming project.

The project hosted the 2022 International Mandela Day launch in Gqeberha on July 18 in collaboration with the Nelson Mandela Foundation. Zwide Development Forum chair Mphumzi Mofu said the collaboration with the Hubs of Convergence, organised around five pillars of development, had started small but was gaining momentum.

This urban farming project falls under Hub Five — Community Driven Projects, and Hub Two — Food Security, in its focus on supporting the community to produce food in a healthy and sustainable way. "We met early this year to discuss what it is the community wants to see, and the first project that we agreed on was the community gardens," Mofu said.

"We saw that many people had small gardens so we linked with them, supporting them with seedlings through the Hubs of Convergence, and planting fruit and indigenous trees."

Urban farming is one facet of the forum's work which encompasses a broader range of projects to strengthen community assets and voices by placing social impact and responsibility in its own hands. Over time, the plan is to expand to sports, art and culture as well as education.

Already, though, there is an informal educational aspect as the community gardens act as peer-to-peer training centres.

"People learn about gardening, soil and how to plant for the seasons, those who are more experienced help in exchanging information," Mofu said.

So far, the forum has started two community gardens and established more



WORKING TOGETHER: NMU deputy vice-chancellor for engagement and transformation Professor André Keet, left, and Head of Mandela Day (NMF) Gushwell Brooks

than 15 household gardens.

These have been so successful that residents from other areas have been asking for assistance.

"We have seen there is demand, they love what we are doing, and now they come from other areas such as Kwazakhele and Soweto."

By experimenting with how best to converge the space of existence and life of the university and society, the Hubs of Convergence provides options for transdisciplinary collaboration.

One of the ways the Hubs of Convergence continues to do this, is through its partnership with organisations like the forum in response to the socioeconomic challenges in Zwide.

These forms of engagement allow the generation of multi-forms of outputs which not only support the development of socially useful scholarship but present development frameworks for other communities to explore.

The partnership encompasses a broader range of projects that aim to encourage communities to reimagine their own agency in driving community development.

In the spirit of the Mandela Month theme of "do what you can, where you are, with what you have", the Zwide Development Forum is making every day Mandela Day for the community.

Community kitchens connect people with purpose

Community kitchens around Nelson Mandela Bay are doing more than providing meals, they are also uniting communities around a shared purpose.

Members of the University's Hubs of Convergence (HoC) and Mandela University Food Systems programme have been working on a sustainable food relief project with Bay NGO Ikhala Trust and six community groups.

There are now community kitchens in Jacksonville, Booyens Park and Wells Estate in Gqeberha, as well as in Kariega and Kuyga.

Ikhala, the HoC and the Mandela University Food Systems Programme together hope to help convert some of the areas' traditional soup kitchens into developmental hubs. The goal is that these will take on community issues with

a range of different programmes, and in this way help to build the community from the inside out.

Made possible by funding from the Nelson Mandela University Convergence Fund, the project involves material support and capacity-building.

What is more, these sites are now becoming spaces for learning, sharing and empowerment said Ikhala Trust director Bernie Dolley.

"It's not just about feeding, there are so many issues that need to be addressed," Dolley said. "It's about communities driving their own development."

Thanks to the grant from Nelson Mandela University, Ikhala was able to channel "literally thousands of seedlings" to community kitchen gardens.

She highlighted two of the projects,

Moeggesukkel on the outskirts of Kariega and Yizani Sakhe in Wells Estate, saying their progress had been "amazing".

"It's almost like an oasis in the desert when you see these green spaces," Dolley said.

"There is excitement that they're able to grow their own, then harvest, and cook from the garden," Dolley added.

"They're also able to sell, and they're building a community of growers and sharing ideas of how best to grow this and what to use for pesticides, and organic gardening and so on.

"Then when they find there is more space that they can use, suddenly there's a different kind of conversation. The intention therefore is to develop this into something even bigger.

"The city needs help, desperately, and

we've got the people right here. Let's bring that together and really showcase through co-creation and co-investing in things that we can collectively make a difference.

"It's not about one being stronger than the other, it's a collaboration."

The concept of community kitchen therefore speaks to the reimagining of soup kitchens as more than just sites of charitable food aid, and sees them as dynamic, community-owned, problem-solving spaces.

They use the notion of food as a powerful connector which strengthens community relationships.

For the HoC and Nelson Mandela University Food Systems programme, the community kitchens have been an tangible way to explore what it means to be a University in service of society.

Sewing project shifts focus to new needs

Another tangible expression of engagement over the Covid-19 pandemic has been the sewing project, which falls under Hub Four: Community-based Economic Initiatives.

At the onset of the pandemic in 2020, the Nelson Mandela University began a campaign called Mask-Up Mandela, driving awareness about protective measures against the disease such as wearing a mask to prevent the spread of infection.

This campaign connected with another university project on sewing in marginalised communities.

The project created economic opportunities that supported small-scale production of reusable cloth masks.

The Faculty of Education's Centre for Community School, the Association for the Physically Disabled and 12 community schools from the Manyano Network worked together to produce fabric masks while the threat of infection was at its highest.

Today, masks are no longer a legal requirement and the sewing project has channelled its resources to another venture that enhances health and wellbeing.

It is now exploring methods of providing reusable cloth pads and/or



MASK-UP MANDELA: This campaign connected with another Nelson Mandela University project on sewing in marginalised communities. The project is now exploring methods of providing reusable cloth pads to women who cannot afford to buy them Picture: SUPPLIED

menstrual cups to women who cannot afford to buy them.

Seed-funding is now being sought to upskill community members with sewing and business skills, and the necessary resources to start a small enterprise.

Funding towards this project helps to provide logistical support such as transport, stationery, catering and printing.

It also contributes to consultations for strategic sessions and workshops on the solidarity economy, co-operatives, and funding proposal development.

It is part of the Hub's mechanisms for community engagement that build relationships across sectors and facilitate community access to information and resources.

End Period Poverty launch highlights key gender issue

Nelson Mandela University's Hubs of Convergence (HoC) has launched an End Period Poverty programme in partnership with the Mina Foundation and Gift of the Givers.

Period poverty refers to the lack of access to sanitary products and hygiene facilities to manage menstruation, and it remains a prevalent issue in SA.

Launched on August 12 at the medical school on Nelson Mandela University's Missionvale campus, the new collaboration aims to bring awareness about these issues to the university and its multi-stakeholder communities.

The programme falls under Hub 3 — Gender Engagement — which aims to support gender equality activism, network groups and scholarship within and beyond the university.

An estimated 30% of young women in SA do not attend school while they are menstruating because they cannot afford sanitary products.

This loss of education can set girls behind their male peers in classes, and deprive them of equal opportunities — and not only schoolgirls are affected, but also students at tertiary institutions.

Mina Foundation founder Zaakira Mahomed spoke at the launch, outlining



NEW CAMPAIGN: 2021 Miss SA Runner-up, Zimi Mabunzi was the Master of Ceremonies Picture: SUPPLIED

the benefits of the silicone Mina Cup to help young women who cannot afford sanitary products each month.

She explained how the reusable, eco-friendly Mina Cup provided an economical solution to reduce the number of classes girls might otherwise miss due to lack of

suitable sanitary products.

The Hubs of Convergence will play a facilitating, co-ordinating and supporting role in the rollout of the programme.

This includes distributing 1,000 cups across the university's seven campuses with the assistance of 14 Mina Cup Champions.

These champions will also conduct workshops and training on menstrual health, distribution and use of the Mina Cup.

Centre for community technologies director Prof Darelle van Greunen also pledged to support the Mina Foundation by developing a software application that will speed up awareness of the product and increase its digital footprint.

The End Period Poverty programme also links to the work the faculty of education and campus health are driving on this issue.

In addition to representatives from the engagement and transformation office and its various entities, representatives from the office of the dean of students and faculty of education, campus health, residence managers, the student representative council, students and other stakeholder communities attended the launch.

Ocean Sciences Campus wins recognition for marine research

The international 2022 Times Higher Education Impact Rankings have recognised Nelson Mandela University's work in the field of ocean sciences with a top place nationally in the life below water category.

The rankings assess the global performance of institutions against the various UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

These goals measure progress in an attempt to document the evidence of universities' impact on society, rather than just research and teaching performance, and each SDG has several targets.

Nelson Mandela University's winning score in the Life Below Water SDG nationally highlights the research, learning and teaching and engagement ongoing within the ocean sciences field. Research, innovation and internationalisation deputy vice-chancellor Thandi Mgwabi said that while the rankings showed the institution's

strengths, they should be considered with care and context, and not be used to determine the strategy of a university.

"Our real impact is our contribution to more just, equitable and sustainable societies," Mgwabi said.

"These rankings seek to measure this impact in addressing local and global challenges. We are pleased with our growing impact and recognition."

Nelson Mandela University has taken part twice since the rankings were introduced four years ago, and this year also performed well in four other categories:

SDG 3: good health and wellbeing, sixth nationally; SDG 13: climate action, second nationally; SDG 15: life on land, second nationally; and SDG 17: partnerships for the goals, fourth nationally.

The criteria for assessing the university's research on life below water and education support for aquatic ecosystems

took into consideration academic papers in journals and publications.

They also looked at work to educate local communities, support sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism for local and national communities. Outreach activities focused on raising awareness around overfishing, unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices. The university has five SA Research Chairs linked to ocean sciences, the transdisciplinary Institute Centre for Coastal and Marine Research and the FishFORCE Academy.

The chairs are: Law of The Sea and Ocean Governance of Development in Africa; Marine Spatial Planning; Shallow Water Ecosystems; Ocean Cultures and Heritage; and Ocean and Marine Food Security. Each is well respected for its research, learning and teaching and engagement efforts within SA and internationally.

Nelson Mandela University builds a sustainable campus

With seven campuses spread across Gqeberha and George, and 30,000 students, developing and maintaining Nelson Mandela University infrastructure is in one way similar to running a small municipality.

However, there is the added imperative of sustainability, a core value of the university that guides all its actions.

The release of the university's first sustainability publication, titled Towards a Sustainable Campus, this year reflects this priority.

This includes the work of Dr Andre Hefer, sustainability engineer; infrastructure services and sustainability department, and Melvin Syce, senior director; infrastructure services and space optimisation.

"It's about ensuring all our infrastructure and operations are sustainably managed within budget, through the portfolio of the deputy vice-chancellor; people & operations, Lebogang Hashatse," Syce said.

And budget is key, because more than half the student body — 17,500 — are beneficiaries of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS), and on-campus accommodation is a priority.

Recognising this, the university has increased its on-campus accommodation from 3,870 beds at the start of 2020 to 5,868 by the end of 2022.

Saving water
All new residences are designed with sustainability as a priority — from the design to



GEARING UP: All new Nelson Mandela University residences are designed with sustainability as a priority. Picture: SUPPLIED

the dual water system for potable water and non-potable water for toilet flushing.

Toilet flushing accounts for one-third of the university's total water use and it is not sustainable to use potable, municipal water for this purpose. The university is on a water emergency and sustainability drive to address the ongoing water crisis in the metro, which includes the ever-present reality of day zero, when the water runs dry.

Most buildings on the campuses already have storage tanks and in 2021 Nelson Mandela University purchased an additional 95 x 5,000l water tanks, with more added this year. Two boreholes were drilled in 2019 to serve new residences on the North Campus.

The university is also exploring the yield and quality of existing boreholes on the Summerstrand, Missionvale and Second Avenue campuses.

In 2022, the university is looking at drilling another borehole on the South Campus because of the volume of people on this campus, and extending the use of the North

Campus supply.

A three-pronged water management and sustainability strategy was implemented on the campuses from June 2021, and is ongoing.

It includes: Technology and the implementation of water-saving systems; Reducing the use of potable municipal water by using other sources of water, such as boreholes and return effluent (RE) water; and Promoting behavioural change to get people to use less water. The strategy is intended not only to mitigate negative impacts of the ongoing water shortages and drought, but also to advance the ongoing institutional sustainability drive.

Energy security and sustainability
The university is equally mindful of how it uses electricity and other sources of power.

"Nelson Mandela University is committed to responsible and sustainable energy management to meet its commitment to reducing CO2 emissions, increasing energy efficiency, energy conservation, and renewable energy supply,"

Hefer said.

The university's renewable energy strategy has approved the installation of solar-photovoltaic (PV) panels on all seven campuses over and above the existing one megawatt (MW) solar plant on the South Campus, completed in 2019 at an estimated cost of R16.5m.

High quality, imported Tier 1/A-grade panels, which are durable for 20 to 25 years are used. Lower quality panels risk delaminating after three to four years.

The South Campus's total energy/electricity requirement is 2.5MW; 30% of its energy use during the day is now solar generated. The goal is for the entire daytime consumption of each campus's total energy/electricity use to be solar generated. The solar installations are a partnership between the university, industry and the government.

The university's photovoltaic research group, headed by Professor Ernest van Dyk, is constantly looking at new ways to improve and advance sustainable renewable energy.

In addition to solar-PV, over the past few years, the university has introduced several energy-saving initiatives, such as LED lighting, which is 60% more efficient than traditional lighting.

Geysers have been replaced with heat pumps in 80% of the residences, and, budget permitting, 100% will have heat pumps or solar geysers within the 2024 year.



DESERT OASIS: The Namases' farming operation continues to expand and serves the needs of Elisa and her family as well as assisting a children's feeding programme that she is involved in. Pictures: SUPPLIED

Off-grid power and water project shows engagement in action

For Elisa Namases and her family, who live in one of the hottest, driest parts of SA, a solar energy project has meant a supply of power and easier access to life-giving water.

Set in the Northern Cape, about 20km east of the Namibian border, the settlement of Riemvasmaak has an abundance of sunshine.

This is where Nelson Mandela University's School of Engineering has conducted solar and wind energy research.

It was able to provide the Namases' Damas guest house with its first off-grid facility in 2018 in the form of a 1kW portable solar pumping station.

Run by the School of Engineering's Advanced Mechatronic Technology Centre, the project is funded by the Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services SETA (MerSETA).

"It's an area with unique conditions that yield some of the highest solar irradiance on the planet," the university's Renewable Energy Research Group manager, Professor Russell Phillips, said.

"There is beautiful arable land in the area, but summer temperatures reach close to 50°C, and the annual rainfall for the area is often less than 50mm."

These extreme conditions have made Riemvasmaak an ideal test site for the university to conduct engineering research that is also in service of society.

After the success of the first pumping station, a second system was supplied and implemented in 2020.

This was designed to supply the guest house as well as Elisa's home with enough



SUN STATION: Elisa Namases and Mandela University students and staff inspect panels used in the solar power installation. Picture: SUPPLIED

water for domestic use, including the irrigation of two small vegetable gardens.

Phillips and colleague Karl du Preez, director of the AMTC and the holder of the merSETA Chair in Engineering Development, recently jointly won an engagement award for this project — and their work is ongoing.

"The farming operation continues to expand and serves the needs of Elisa and her family as well as assisting a children's feeding programme that she is involved in," Phillips said.

"We are hoping to add bulk solar refrigeration for crops and domestic use and are also looking at a possible aquaponics facility at the site."

"We are also involving our agricultural

colleagues to assist with training on optimal farming methods."

As part of the project, a second research site in the Riemvasmaak area has been earmarked for an additional solar pump array as well as future research projects.

With this solar energy project, Nelson Mandela University is solving technical challenges, sharing knowledge and contributing to social engagement.

"The model we sought was one where both parties could benefit from the initiative, which makes it much more likely to remain sustainable," Phillips said.

"We take our knowledge for granted, but how do we as engineers contribute to job creation and agriculture as a business, which is at the forefront of this project?"

Preparing the conscious citizens of the future

Justice, recognition, freedom, dignity. These words rest at the heart of the Social Consciousness and Sustainable Futures course offered at Nelson Mandela University.

The course aims to prepare conscious citizens of the future as it seeks to increase awareness of social responsibility, and challenge students to use their knowledge, skills and qualifications to better serve society. Project manager Dr Babalwa Magoqwana outlined how the Social Consciousness and Sustainable Futures (SCSF) module came into being. "This is a module initiated by the students of Nelson Mandela University, just after the #MustFall movement in South Africa," she said, referring to the mass action of 2015-

A group of students and staff came together to craft what the module should look and sound like

2017 across the country. The University piloted the new SCSF in 2018, drawing in stakeholders who included students and staff from different faculties.

Dr Magoqwana said students asked for a course "to ground them in their social responsibility and the different types of knowledges that the university recognises".

"A group of students and staff came together to craft what the module should look and sound like, based on humanising pedagogy that recognises students as bringing knowledge to contribute."

"They wanted to be 'seen' within the curriculum, with a module that can speak to their histories."

SCSF is based on the decolonial movement, where Africa knowledge systems flow at the same level as traditional western systems of knowledge.

"It is designed to give a deep historicised understanding of Mandela the person, Mandela the name, Mandela the institution, his whole intellectual legacy and the values attached to it," Dr Magoqwana said.

Primary school children blitz coding with TANKS game

Summerwood Primary School hosted the metro's first Unplugged Coding Competition for primary school coding clubs in June this year.

More than 130 Grade 5-7 learners played a 45-minute game of TANKS, the coding app game developed by Nelson Mandela University Computing Sciences graduate Byron Batteson.

Tangible Africa, a collaboration between the Nelson Mandela University Computing Sciences Department and Leva Foundation, introduced the pupils to the magic.

Nelson Mandela University Computing



TOP TRIO: The winners of the first Unplugged Coding Competition for primary school coding clubs in Nelson Mandela Bay were, from left, Lincoln Booyesen, 13, Rayhanah Walters, 12, and Shaun Johansson, 12, from Parsons Hill Primary School. Picture: SUPPLIED

Sciences Associate Professor Jean Greyling, well-known for spreading awareness about coding to youngsters in South Africa and abroad, is Tangible Africa project co-ordinator and briefed the children before the games began.

As a special surprise — that not even Greyling was aware of — a pre-recorded video message from Nelson Mandela University alumnus — Amazon Vice-President David Brown — was played in which he wished the competitors good luck. "I got my very first computer [in primary school], well, it was more like a fancy calculator, that I taught myself to

programme on," Brown said.

"That is where I discovered the world of programming, and it is something that I still enjoy doing today. I wasn't as lucky as you to have TANKS, which teaches you how to programme in a really fun and interesting way."

A total of 32 colourfully dressed teams from clubs representing Erica Girls Primary School, Collegiate Junior School for Girls, Brylin Private School and Parsons Hill Primary School joined the Summerstrand school for a fun-filled afternoon of coding.

TANKS uses tokens resembling puzzle pieces and image recognition on the

mobile App. It uses no data once the level has been downloaded from the App or Play store.

The game introduces pupils to basic coding concepts, which increases in complexity as they progress through levels. Summerwood Primary School learners make no secret of their excitement for coding as an afterschool activity.

"I love coding because it challenges my brain and it's exciting to come to after a long day at school," said Jennifer Hamilton, a Grade 7 pupil.

Grade 5 pupil Ziva Meyer agreed: "I think coding is a brain game. It makes you think

out of the box, and it challenges you to try out new ideas to solve the problem. I love to do coding with my friends!"

Two additional coding apps using the same concept as TANKS: namely, BOATS and RANGERS have also been developed to expose more youth to coding, similarly without the use of computers, using offline, cost-effective instruments.

To date, Tangible Africa has reached nearly 50,000 learners in direct workshops and distributed coding kits to over 500 schools.

For more information, contact Prof Greyling at Jean.Greyling@mandela.ac.za



Nelson Mandela University's Online Fundraising Platform

Online donations from stakeholders directly support Nelson Mandela University to be in service of society, seeking solutions to the grand challenges facing our communities. Online giving, gives practical expression to our value of Ubuntu, and shows support and solidarity for the work of the University.

Alumni, staff, students, parents of students and friends of the University, including corporates, philanthropic foundations, SETAs, and other public and private organisations from across the globe can contribute financially and in kind to the learning, teaching, research, engagement and student development work of Nelson Mandela University.

For more information and to contribute, to the various projects follow <https://www.mandela.ac.za/Giving-to-Mandela-University>



 GARY KOEKEMOER INNOVATION - ENVIRONMENT	 SAKUMZI NYENDWANA ARTS & CULTURE	 GARTH SAMPSON INNOVATION - WATER	 DENISE VAN HUYSTEEN BUSINESS	 GIFT OF THE GIVERS DR SOOLIMAN CIVIL SOCIETY
 THOBELA THOBA SPORT	 LINDA VAN OUDHEUSDEN COMMUNITY	 NTOMBOZUKO JAFTA GENDER BASED VIOLENCE	 ISAAC METEMBO EDUCATION	 KAYLA EBERHARDT HEALTH

The fight against GBV is key for SPAR Eastern Cape

SPAR Eastern Cape is continuing to place the fight against gender-based violence (GBV) at the centre of its commitment to support the community.

The annual Charity Golf Day, in February, and Women's Virtual Challenge, in September, are just two high-profile events supported by SPAR Eastern Cape in pursuit of its corporate social responsibility goals.

Albeit for a serious matter, the golf day is a lighthearted affair to mobilise various partners in raising money for those in need.

This year, a team element was introduced, with players divided into three groups of 10.

Each group was allocated a beneficiary, which received R30 per point scored courtesy of SPAR Eastern Cape and its suppliers.

United Through Sport, Yokhuselo Haven and PE Mental Health — all of which are outspoken against gender-based violence — were the worthy recipients.

When the final putt had been sunk, PE Mental Health had earned 1,002 points, Yokhuselo Haven one fewer and United Through Sport 982.

The suppliers contributed about R30,000 to each, with SPAR Eastern Cape topping up their purses to R40,000.

The Women's Challenge, held virtually on September 3, offers a unique platform to raise awareness of GBV. At the recent launch, SPAR Eastern Cape set the pace by donating R50,000 each to United Through Sport and On Eagles' Wings in support of their "tangible" work in the field of GBV.

For the past two decades, the Bet Sheekom Centre has been providing long-term shelter for women in an environment where they feel safe, at home and receive counselling.

In support of Women's Month and the organisation's work against GBV, it received a donation of R120,000 from SPAR Eastern Cape in 2021.

Annually, the Eastern Cape retailer also joins forces with the Association for Persons with Physical Disabilities in the rollout of Wheelchair Wednesday, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2021.

While initially targeting the donation of wheelchairs in Nelson Mandela Bay, the project has spread its wings to include assistance of the Amputee Support Group and the Nkosinathi Foundation for the Visually Impaired.

Environmental awareness is another cause that falls in line with SPAR Eastern Cape's mantra.



GOOD CAUSE: The Eastern Cape retailer joined forces with the Association for Persons with Physical Disabilities in the rollout of Wheelchair Wednesday, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2021. Pictures: SUPPLIED



SAFE PLACE: For the past two decades, the Bet Sheekom Centre has been providing long-term shelter for women in an environment where they feel safe



DESERVING RECIPIENTS: The golf day is a light-hearted affair to mobilise various partners in raising money for those in need. This year a team element was introduced, with players divided into three groups of 10. Each group was allocated a beneficiary, which received R30 per point scored courtesy of SPAR Eastern Cape and its suppliers

Environmental awareness is another cause that falls in line with SPAR Eastern Cape's mantra.

Its drive to raise awareness of the problems caused by plastic pollution and the irresponsible disposal of nappies and sanitary ware is a cornerstone of its links with the Kirkwood Wildfies and Karoo Food Festival.

A further example of its commitment to raise awareness of plastic pollution is its support of the Zwartkops Conservancy.

The Zwartkops Conservancy maintains the state of the Swartkops River and surrounds by employing litter pickers, running educational programmes and negotiating with the metro on key issues.



USEFUL: Environmental awareness is another cause that falls in line with SPAR Eastern Cape's mantra. This shirt is made from recycled plastic bottles



WELCOME FUNDS: At the launch of the SPAR Women's Challenge this year, Mercy Cwayl of On Eagles Wings in Jeffreys Bay receiving a cheque of R500 000 to assist in the work they do in the field of fighting Gender Based violence. Together with MC's Gino Fabri and Yolanda Bukani, Alan Stapleton and Angelo Swartz from SPAR

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY, CELEBRATING OUR CHAMPIONS

SPAR is proud to be a sponsor of
The Herald Citizen of the Year Awards



news

Our citizens of the year celebrated in style

The Herald, in partnership with Nelson Mandela University, hosted the awards to celebrate local heroes who go beyond their means to give back to the community. Take a look at Friday night's glitz and glam



SPECIAL AWARD: The Herald and Weekend Post editor Rochelle de Kock hands over the Sister Ethel Award for 10 years+ service to the community to Walmer Angel Project founder Glenda Brunette Pictures: WERNER HILLS



IN SONG: The Nelson Mandela University choir entertained the crowd



HAVING A LAUGH: Master of ceremonies, comedian Donovan Gollath, with judge Michael Barry



KEEP ON GIVING: The Herald marketing manager Berna Ulay-Walters presents the civil society category award to Dr Imtiaz Soollman, founder of Gift of the Givers



STRONG MESSAGE: Rachel Kollisi speaks at the awards ceremony



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