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BERGRIVIER BULLETIN

Quarterly External Municipal Newsletter

***UNVEILING:** The Berg River Estuary in Velddrif, which covers 1,162 hectares, is now a wetland of international importance. The unveiling ceremony took place on 03 June 2022. Here (from left) is Adv. Hanlie Linde (Bergrivier Municipality: Municipal Manager), Ald. Ray van Rooy (Executive Mayor), 'Mbali' (Protagonist: Environmental Educational Video), Western Cape Premier Alan Winde and Western Cape MEC for Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Anton Bredell.*

BERG RIVER ESTUARY IN VELDDRIF: NOW A SITE OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

"There is only one earth and one Berg River Estuary".

These were the words of Western Cape Premier, Alan Winde, who delivered the keynote address at the launch of Berg River Estuary as a Ramsar Site on 05 June 2022, ahead of World Environment Day.

The Berg River Estuary spans over 61km² and is one of the largest in the country. With the estuary receiving Ramsar status, it is now recognised worldwide as a site of ecological importance. Some 127 species of waterbird have been detected since 1975, some of which are globally threatened such as the Cape Coromant.

The Executive Mayor of Bergrivier Municipality, Ald. Ray van Rooy, expressed his excitement about the prospects that a Ramsar site in the region would have on the local economy and especially the tourism industry. "This is a celebration for all of us in the Bergrivier Municipal Area. This estuary attracts bird watchers, joggers, canoeists, tourists, nature conservationists, nature lovers, and also individuals who are planning to settle in the region. It is an important ecological space and we need to keep the balance between protecting this sacred area and reaping the economic benefits that it brings," said Van Rooy.

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BERGRIVIER MUNISIPALITEIT SE "LoTYDE" BRING OPVOEDKUNDIGE INSTELLINGS NA LEERDERS

Deur Amerandi Valentyn

“Dit is belangrik dat ons jeug 'n geleentheid kry om persoonlik met verteenwoordigers van verskeie tersiêre instellings, ander onderrig instansies en voornemende werkgewers te skakel. Dit sal hulle help om die regte keuses vir hul toekoms te maak”.
Dit was die woorde van Uitvoerende Burgemeester, Rdh. Ray van Rooy. So het hy die belangrikheid beklemtoon om die verskillende studiegeleenthede, beursopsies en vereistes ten toon te stel wat nodig is vir leerders om suksesvol vir hul verlangde graad, diploma of hoër sertifikaat in te skryf.

Leerders van verskeie dorpe binne die Bergrivier Munisipale Area het op 29 Julie 2022 'n jaarlikse opedag, LoTYDE, in Piketberg bygewoon om meer inligting oor hul verlangde loopbaan te kry.

LoTYDE is 'n akroniem vir 'Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Development Expo'. Dit verwys na die laagwater van die see (stiltetyd) wat teenwoordig is voordat die hoogwater intree. Dit is in 'n sekere sin simbolies dat skool die oefenterrein is wat leerders voorberei om 'n sukses van hul lewens te maak wanneer hulle die “wêreld buite” betree. LoTYDE is in 2015 gestig deur die Kantoor van die Uitvoerende Burgemeester met die ondersteuning van die Departement van Onderwys en word befonds deur Bergrivier Munisipaliteit.

Dié geleentheid, wat vir hoërskoolleerders tussen graad 11 en 12 voorsiening maak, is by die Steynville Primêre skoolsaal in Piketberg aangebied. Die Premier van die Wes-Kaap, Alan Winde, het 'n spesiale gasverskyning gemaak om die jeug aan te moedig om beheer oor hul lewens te neem en die geleenthede wat gebied word, aan te gryp.

Leerders van die volgende hoërskole het dit bygewoon: Hoërskool Piketberg, Porterville Hoërskool, Steynville Sêkonder en Hoërskool Velddrif. Daar was verskillende stalletjies wat bestaan het uit verskeie onderwysinstellings wat Kaapse Skiereiland Universiteit van Tegnologie, Universiteit van Wes-Kaapland, Universiteit van Suid-Afrika, Onafhanklike Verkiesingskommissie (OVK), Gene Louw Verkeerskollege, CTU Training College en Weskus Kollege ingesluit het.

Van Rooy het genoem dat hierdie geleentheid ontwerp is om leerders te help met een van die mees fundamentele besluite wat hulle ter ondersteuning van hul loopbane moet neem. "Die realiteit is dat daar geen tersiêre fasiliteite binne die Bergrivier Munisipale Area is nie, en baie van hierdie onderwysinstellings is redelik ver weg wat dit vir die meeste leerders baie moeilik maak om verder te studeer," het hy verduidelik.

Vanjaar het die opspraakwekkende groep genaamd Aidam-John en Lil' Willy die leerders vermaak deur van hul gewildste liedjies te sing, en die verhoog opgehelder met hul danspassies en energie.

Ashley Pienaar, seremoniemeester, het die gehoor vermaak met sy unieke komiese optredes en die skare op hul voete gehou. Daar was ook verskeie gelukkige trekking-pryse (elektroniese toestelle) wat deur leerders gewen is. Elke leerder het 'n handelsmerk LoTYDE rugsakkie ontvang wat 'n waterbottel, 'n flitsie, gebottelde water, versnapperinge en 'n skoonmaaktoestel vir 'n selfoon bevat het.

NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTER VISITS PIKETBERG FOR SAFETY SUMMIT

By Matthew Sheldon

The newly appointed Provincial Minister of Community Safety and Police Oversight in the Western Cape, Reagen Allen, attended Bergrivier Municipality's Safety Summit in June 2022 in Piketberg, whereby the various safety initiatives were showcased and he was introduced to safety role-players in the region.

The Minister paid a visit to Piketberg within his first 30 days of stepping into office. He was informed about the operations taking place at the Active Box such as the video cameras tracking movement of vehicles (by snapping vehicles registration plates) and people in the various towns.

Bergrivier Municipality would like to thank all its partners and stakeholders that made this event a fruitful engagement.

Here (from left) is Ald. Ray van Rooy (Executive Mayor), Minister Reagen Allen (Western Cape Minister of Community Safety and Police Oversight) and Ald. Mario Wessels (Deputy Executive Mayor). Safety is our responsibility!

BERG RIVER ESTUARY NOW A RAMSAR SITE OF INTERNATIONAL ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

Winde said that estuaries such as this one "provides a number of goods and services such as tourism, salt production and fishing to name a few. These alone are worth over R380 million to the local economy per year and so its conservation is paramount not only to the local 'Weskus' community but also to the Province's economy".

Western Cape Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Anton Bredell, said that Cape Nature and the Western Cape Government remain committed to managing the estuary co-operatively with its partners and that "together we will continue to conserve this incredibly special site and with its newly received status, that its protection will be valued even more than before".

Bergrivier Municipality, as a key partner, is committed to ensuring that the estuary is protected, valued and cared for by all who make use of this site, for future generations.

'STAP EN TRAP' VIR BEWUSMAKING TEEN EUWELS IN DIE BERGRIVIER MUNISIPALE GEBIED

Deur Amerandi Valentyn

Die Uitvoerende Burgemeester van Bergrivier Munisipaliteit, Raadsheer Ray van Rooy, Moswin Moore en LeBrett Cordon het deelgeneem aan 'n 8-dag staptog om inwoners binne die Bergrivier Munisipale Gebied aan te moedig, om saam te staan teen die euwels "wat ons gemeenskappe siek maak".

Die Bergrivier Stap en Trap Initiatief het op 01 Augustus 2022 in Piketberg afgeskop. Die deelnemers het deur elke dorp binne Bergrivier Munisipale Gebied gestap en getrap. Hulle het meer as 300km gedek.

Die doel van die inisiatief is om bewusmaking in die Bergrivier Munisipale Gebied te kweek teen dwelm – en alkoholmisbruik, seksuele uitbuiting, tienerswangerskappe, geslagsgebaseerde geweld, diefstal van Munisipale eiendom en die oprigting van dwelmhuise. Toe hulle die dorpe bereik, is hulle deur die Wyksraadslid en gemeenskapslede verwelkom.

Van Rooy samel fondse in vir die Burgemeester se Hulpfonds om die sosiale euwels binne ons gemeenskappe te bekamp. U vriendelike skenking sal gebruik word om die kerndienste van plaaslike NGO's binne die Bergrivier Munisipale Gebied te ondersteun.

Die Munisipaliteit het alle aktiwiteite regstreeks uitgesaai op die Bergrivier Stap en Trap Inisiatief Facebook-bladsy.

VANDALISM & THEFT OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY OUT OF CONTROL IN VELDDRIF

"We are coming for you!"

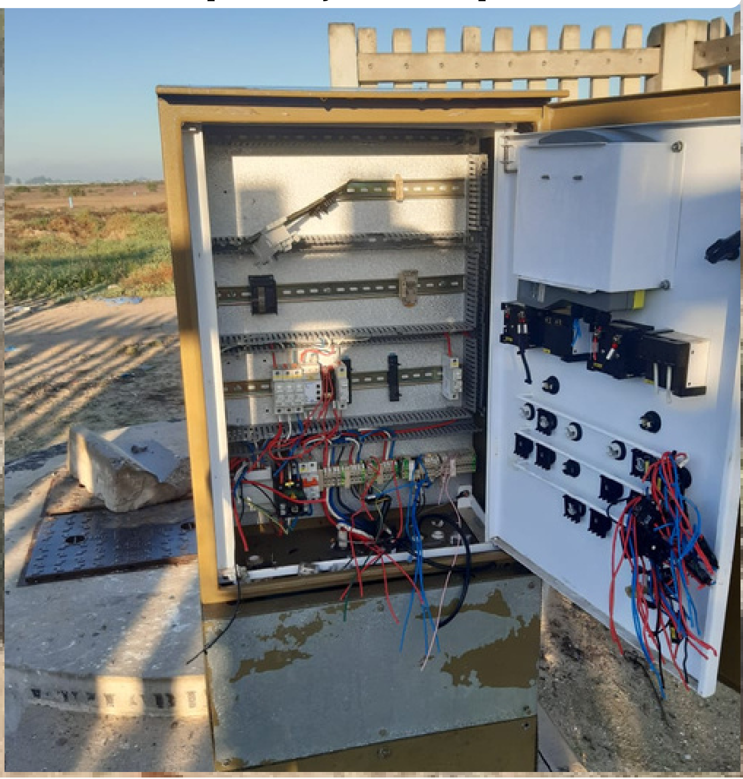
By Matthew Sheldon

"Vandalism, theft or destruction of municipal property will not be tolerated in Bergrivier Municipality. We will find you. We will clamp down on all perpetrators".

These were the words from Rhandall Swarts, Speaker of Bergrivier Municipality, who sent a serious message to all individuals who are interfering with municipal service delivery efforts in Velddrif. The Office of the Speaker convened an urgent meeting with safety role-players in August 2022, to discuss stringent measures that will be implemented to halt all incidences of vandalism.

Bergrivier Municipality spent approximately R1,5 million during the 2020-2021 financial year in Velddrif alone, to repair damaged municipal infrastructure and to replace stolen cables. "Vandalism is at crisis level. It has become an annual expense weighing heavy on the budget, eroding opportunities to spend funds where it matters most," said Swarts.

The Municipality, in partnership with safety stakeholders, is busy drafting a high-level plan to combat vandalism and theft of municipal property across the Bergrivier Municipal Area, but more specifically in the hotspot areas (Velddrif).



Swarts is urging all residents to report incidences of vandalism or theft of municipal property immediately to the Municipality.

"Take ownership of municipal facilities, its yours. We have to work together to combat this scourge in our communities. Services are interrupted when criminal activities like these are left unattended. We need to act and act fast," said Swarts.

Any person who reports an incident of vandalism or cable theft to the Municipality may be rewarded if the information or evidence provided directly leads an individual being found guilty of the crime committed.

To report incidences of vandalism or cable theft, contact the following numbers:

Piketberg: 083 226 1067/ 083 661 9253
Porterville: 083 922 5213
Velddrif (Including Dwarskersbos & Laaiplek): 083 272 4128
Redelinghuys: 083 226 1067/ 083 661 9253
Aurora: 083 272 4128
Eendekuil: 083 922 5213
Goedverwacht & Wittewater: 083 226 1067 & 083 661 9253

BERGRIVIER MUNISIPALITEIT BIED EERSTE GOUE SPELE IN PIKETBERG AAN

Deur Amerandi Valentyn

"Die ouer persone binne die Bergrivier Munisipale Gebied is ons pilare van wysheid, besit 'n groot hoeveelheid waardevolle plaaslike kennis, en is ons betroubare gidse wanneer dit kom by gemeenskapsontwikkelingsinisiatiewe. Ons bedank en vier elke ouer persoon vir hul uiters belangrike rol wat hulle binne ons gemeenskappe speel!"

Dit was die woorde van Uitvoerende Burgemeester van Bergrivier Munisipaliteit, Rdh. Ray van Rooy, wat die waarde van ouer persone binne die samelewing en in hul onderskeie gesinne, beklemtoon het.

Bergrivier Munisipaliteit, in vennootskap met die Departement van Kultuursake en Sport (DKES), Weskus Distriksmunisipaliteit (WKDM), Departement Maatskaplike Ontwikkeling (DSD), Mediese Nooddienste (EMS) en *Bergrivier Motivated Women* (BMW) het die eerste amptelike Goue Spele in Piketberg op 22 Junie 2022 aangebied. Meer as 200 ouer persone het hierdie geleentheid bygewoon.

Die Goue Spele is daarop gemik om aan ouer persone die geleentheid te bied om met hul maats van ander dorpe te sosialiseer en terselfdertyd hulle by te staan en aan te moedig om 'n gesonde leefstyl te handhaaf deur aktief te wees en aan sportaktiwiteite deel te neem.

Die ouer persone, wat van die verskillende dorpe binne die Bergrivier Munisipale Gebied gekom het, het almal 'n dienssentrum verteenwoordig. Daar was 10 ouer persoon verenigings teenwoordig by die Bergrivier Goue Spele en het teen mekaar meegeding vir top eerbewyse in die volgende items: *Jukskei; Rugby Ball Throw; Goal Shooting; Duck Walk; Ring the Stick; 500m Brisk Walk; 100m Sprint; 4 x 100m Relay en 100m sprint.*

Aan die einde van die dag is al ons ouer persone wat aan hierdie wedstryde deelgeneem het wenners. Hulle het almal medaljes ontvang en ons wens hulle geluk vir hul entoesiasme, mededingende en vreugdevolle gees.

"Ek wil graag my opregte dank uitspreek aan al die rolspelers wat bygedra het tot die sukses van die dag en verseker het dat ons ouer persone spesiale gasbehandeling kry. Die plan is om volgende jaar weer hierdie geleentheid aan te bied, en ons hoop om slegs groter te gaan," het Onder-Uitvoerende Burgemeester, Rdh. Mario Wessels, afgesluit.

PORTERVILLE BIBLIOTEEEK ONTVANG R256 418 VIR OPGRADERINGS

Deur Amerandi Valentyn

Bergrivier Munisipaliteit het die Porterville Biblioteek tussen Mei en Junie 2022 gesluit om 'n reeks opgraderings aan te bring aan die fasiliteit. Die hoofrede is om die fasiliteit meer toeganklik te maak vir alle besoekers. Die biblioteek het opgraderings te waarde van R256 418 ondergaan.

Die opknappings sluit die volgende in: vervanging van teëls, verf van mure en om die fasiliteit rolstoelvriendelik te maak. Twee toilette is omskep (rolstoelvriendelik) en die ingang is ook opgradeer. Hierdie projek is onlangs voltooi en die fasiliteit is weereens oop soos normaal.

VOOR

NA

BIBLIOTEKE SE TYE TERUG NA NORMAAL

Tydens die aanvang van die COVID-19 pandemie, is Bergrivier Munisipaliteit genoodsaak om sekere aanpassings te maak om ononderbroke dienste te lewer aan die publiek. Die bedryfsure van die biblioteke binne die Bergrivier Munisipale Gebied moes verander. Dit is nou verby en die biblioteke het vanaf 01 Augustus 2022 teruggekeer na die gewone tye voor die pandemie.

Kontak u naaste biblioteek om die werksure te bevestig.

Kontaknommers:

Piketberg Biblioteek- 022 913 6093
LB Wernich Biblioteek- 022 913 6105
Porterville Biblioteek- 022 931 2100
Bettie Julies Biblioteek- 022 931 2100
Velddrif Biblioteek- 022 783 1112

Noordhoek Biblioteek - 022 783 1112
Redelinghuys Biblioteek - 022 962 1605
Aurora Biblioteek - 022 952 1720
Eendekuil Biblioteek - 022 942 1780

FINANCIAL YEAR-END WITH PREMIER ALAN WINDE - 'STAY MOTIVATED'

By Amerandi Valentyn

Bergrivier Municipality ended off the 2021-2022 financial year on a high note, after special guest, Western Cape Premier Alan Winde, delivered an impactful key message to the entire organisation's workforce. "Now is the time for innovation, opportunity and leadership," said Winde.

The Municipality achieved clean audit status for the 2021-2022 financial year, and is looking to build on the momentum and successes of previous financial years. Premier Winde congratulated Bergrivier Municipality on all its achievements and mentioned that staff should maintain the good attitude, remain motivated and keep up the good work in the communities, through excellent service delivery efforts.

Municipal Notice: Indigent subsidies

Bergrivier Municipality would like to invite all households that would like to register as a household in need and are eligible for free basic services, to visit their nearest municipal office. Customers can apply for indigent subsidies if the total household income of all members of the household living on the premises is less than R5000 per month. If you qualify, your monthly bill will be subsidized by up to R656.10. This amount includes 6Kl of free water. Come and find out how the process works. For more information on indigent subsidies, call Mabel Fortuin (Piketberg) on 022 913 6061 or Estralita Schreuder (Porterville) on 022 931 8420 or Alecia Carstens (Velddrif) on 022 783 8313. We serve with pride and we are always there to help you!

Munisipale Kennisgewing: Deernis-subsidies

Bergrivier Munisipaliteit nooi graag alle huishoudings wat as hulphoewende huishoudings wil registreer en vir gratis basiese dienste in aanmerking wil kom, om hul naaste munisipale kantoor te besoek. Verbruikers kan aansoek doen vir 'n deernis-subsidie indien die totale huishoudelike inkomste van alle lede van die huishouding wat op die perseel woonagtig is, minder as R5000 per maand is. Indien u kwalifiseer sal u maandelikse rekening met tot soveel as R656.10 gesubsidieer word. Hierdie bedrag sluit 6Kl gratis water in. Kom vind uit hoe die proses werk. Vir meer inligting oor deernis-subsidies, skakel Mabel Fortuin (Piketberg) by 022 913 6061 of Estralita Schreuder (Porterville) by 022 931 8420 of Alecia Carstens (Velddrif) by 022 783 8313. Ons dien met trots en ons is altyd daar om u te help!

NEWLY APPOINTED LIBRARIAN FOR PIKETBERG: LUMKA GANGATELE

By Matthew Sheldon

Bergrivier Municipality would like to welcome Lumka Gangatele, the newest addition to the Piketberg Library team.

Lumka was appointed from 01 July 2022 to serve in the position of Librarian at the Piketberg Municipal Library on a full-time basis. She will be responsible for acquiring, organising and distributing library resources, whilst also ensuring excellent service delivery to all clients who make use of the facility. Her activities also include ensuring the dissemination of all library information to the public.

"I look forward to doing what I love, which is to ensure that book lovers and learners are able to benefit from the library resources that is freely available to them. If your reason for coming to the library is for research, projects, internet access or to get to read your favourite books, I am here to assist you," said a jubilant Lumka.
In 2007, Lumka Gangatele (46), who is originally from Paarl, was appointed as Library Assistant at Eikendal Library (City of Cape Town). In 2009, she assumed the position of Librarian at Fisantekraal Library. Thereafter, she became the Librarian at Grassy Park Library until 2017. Hereafter, for personal reasons she resigned from her position.

In 2021, Lumka conducted voluntary work as a Librarian for Mbekweni Library.

Bergrivier Municipality wishes her well in her new position. We know that the library community of Piketberg will support her and welcome her into the Bergrivier-family.

Bergrivier Municipality welcomes newly appointed Lumka Gangatele, who will be the new Librarian for Piketberg Library. May you serve the Bergrivier Municipality with pride.

Photo: *Matthew Sheldon*

Bergrivier Municipality has a competent and passionate library staff that is ready to assist all clients with excellent service. Here (from left) is Viyouneffer Simpson, Michael Dietrich, Lizette Toontjies, Sophie Booise and Herrolee Joubert-Kok. ***Photo:*** *Matthew Sheldon*

VROUEDAG IN REDELINGHUYS: 'SPESIALE GASTE VIR 'N SPESIALE DAG'

Deur Amerandi Valentyn

Bergrivier Munisipaliteit het vanjaar se Vroudag vieringe in Redelinghuys gehou. Ons spesiale gaste (vroue) was behoorlik gevier en bederf met heerlike vermaak, smaaklike kos en geskenke.

YOUTH DAY 2022 IN VELDDRIF

By Matthew Sheldon

"A Youth Day event like no other before held in the Bergrivier Municipal Area".

This is how Alderman Ray van Rooy, Executive Mayor of Bergrivier Municipality, described the electric atmosphere inside the Velddrif Town Hall on 16 June 2022, where an array of talented local and regional artists and performers kept the crowd on their feet with high quality entertainment.

A total of 300 young people came from all the various towns within the Bergrivier Municipal Area to enjoy a free, enthralling show. This event was also live-streamed on the Municipality's official Facebook Page, for both the young and old to view from the comfort of their homes.

The master of ceremonies, Ashley Pienaar, along with the long list of talented young performers which included Gabriel "Lil Emo" Monk, TessE, DJ Stiney, Annie "Ek is Annie" Fortuin, Aidam-John & Lil Willy, Violynn Sauls, and Motivational Rappers Group, kept the crowd on the edge of their seats.

"I could personally see how excited the young people were to be part of such a big *jol* of an event. They were dancing at their seats, singing along to their favourite artist's songs, and enjoying all the local entertainment on stage," said Van Rooy.

Van Rooy added that although Youth Day is a day to celebrate all young people, the horrific events which lead to this public holiday in South Africa must not be forgotten. On 16 June 1976, young non-white scholars took to the streets of Soweto to protest against injustices in the educational system, which sparked nation-wide unrest. These protests led to the death of many young children, including Hector Pieterson.

Bergrivier Municipality would like to thank all its partners and stakeholders. A special thanks to all the performers who made this day memorable for all the young people who attended the event.

PIKETBERG BIBLIOTEEK SPOG MET NUWE TUIN VIR DIE PUBLIEK

Deur Matthew Sheldon

Piketberg Biblioteek spog met 'n nuwe tuinarea in Kerkstraat.

Die omheinde tuinarea by Piketberg Biblioteek is spesiaal geskep vir lede van die publiek. Daar is ook banke geplaas vir inwoners wat rustig wil sit om 'n boek te lees of hulle kan ook aanteken vir die gratis Wifi vanuit die tuin.

Gerna Croeser, Hoof: Biblioteekdienste by Bergrivier Munisipaliteit, sê toe hierdie projek begin is, het mev. Moira van der Westhuizen dadelik aangebied om te help met die beplanning van die tuinuitleg. Van der Westhuizen het ook van die plante geskenk. Sy en haar tuinier, die Biblioteek personeel en die Munisipaliteit se Parke-span het almal gehelp met die grondvoorbereiding en die plantwerk.

Personeel by Piketberg Biblioteek sien uit om die publiek te verwelkom in hul tuinarea waar hulle kan sit en ontspan.

REPORT FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

Members of the public are encouraged to report any fraud and/or corruption allegations to either the Executive Mayor, Alderman Ray van Rooy, on 083 657 9615, the Municipal Manager, Adv. Hanlie Linde on 022 913 6011 or the Internal Auditor, Cindy Ranna at 022 913 6002 or via e-mail: rannac@bergmun.org.za

The public can also contact the National Anti-corruption Hotline at 0800 701 701 or the Provincial Forensic Services at 021 483 0931 or via e-mail: Tip.Offs@westerncape.gov.za

All communication is treated with sensitivity and is strictly confidential.

SAY NO TO #FRAUD!

Cindy Ranna, Internal Auditor at Bergrivier Municipality.

Photo: *Matthew Sheldon*

BERGRIVIER
MUNISIPALITEIT | MUNICIPALITY | UMASIPALA

‘n Vooruitstrewende gemeenskap waar almal wil leef, werk, leer en speel op ‘n menswaardige manier.

Ons dien met trots!

BERGRIVIER
MUNISIPALITEIT | MUNICIPALITY | UMASIPALA

Uluntu oluphumelelayo apho bonke bafuna ukuhlala, ukufunda, ukusebenza kunye nokudlala ngendlela enesidima.

Sisebenza Ngokuzingca!

BERGRIVIER
MUNISIPALITEIT | MUNICIPALITY | UMASIPALA

A prosperous community where all want to live, work, learn and play in a dignified manner.

We serve with pride!