

Emergency Contacts
Courtesy of Grocotts Mail

- Ambulance: 10177
- Aids helpline: 08000 12322
- AA rescue: 0800 111997
- Medical rescue: 08000 33007
- Grahamstown child and family welfare: 046 636 01355
- Electricity: 0466036036 (A/H) 046 603 6000
- Eskom: 0860 140014
- Fire brigade: 046 622 4444
- Police: 046 603 9152
- Hi-Tec: 046 636 1660
- Rapheal centre: 046 622 8831
- SPCA: 046 622 3233
- Traffic services: 046 603 6067
- Water: 046 603 6136
- Hospice: 046 622 9661
- Settlers hospital: 046 622 2215
- Day hospital: 046 622 3033
- Fort England hospital: 046 622 7003
- Legal aid board: 046 622 9350
- Locksmith: 082 556 9975

Bridging the Gap



HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT PEOPLE YOUR AGE DOING CRIME?



"Crime comes from your background. If you were bullied, then you end up being rough and tough on the outside. You end up doing to others what was done to you."
(Zelda Mahabi, 18)



"I feel that they are doing things to please and impress other people, especially their friends."
(Casey Kirkwood, 16)



"Ek is bang om te loop in die nag. Die rowe outjies lê in die Kloof."
(Latifah Stevens, 13.)



"I feel bad because they steal and their futures are still ahead of them. Crime won't do anything for them."
(Thulani Libi, 19)



"Give them a second chance to learn from their mistakes."
(Sivuire Fanayo, 17)

Die saadjies

By Lynn Berggren

Sedert Agnita Jantjies by a jeug konferensie in die Noltshando saal was, het 'n klein idee in haar begin grond vat. Al wat sy nou nodig het is die ondersteuning van die gemeenskap en die jeug. Agnita is 'n 21-jarige moeder van Hoogenoeg. Sy voel dat die kinders en veral die jeug in die area baie min geleenthede het vir vermaak. As gevolg van die raak die kinders verveeld en jag daan hulle kattekwad aan. Maar ons kan hulle kwaalik neem nie.

"As daar dalk 'n biblioteek in die gebied is sal die kinders nie dorp toe hoef te loop nie". Sê Agnita. Sy beoog ook om 'n sportklub te stig sodat die jeug n bietjie besig kan wees in die middag as hulle uit die skool uitkom.

Die kinders en die jeug is baie na aan Agnita se hart. Dit kom van self-sprekend omdat sy n jeug was toe sy 'n ma geword het, en sy weet hoe dit is om jong te wees met n toekoms wat nie so blink lyk nie. Dit is hoekom Agnita nou die saadjie wat in haar geplant was daardie dag in Noltshando saal, wil water en kweek todat dit in 'n pragtige boom kan groei.

"Ons jongmense moet staan vir die goed wat ons wil hê" is die woorde van Agnita, maar sy voel dat daar nog baie gedoen moet word om hierdie projek 'n sukses te maak. Alleen kan sy dit nie doen nie. Sy het al die ondersteuning wat sy kan kry nodig. Soos dit altyd gesê word, die eerste tree is altyd die moeilikste, maar daarna raak die pad makliker om te loop. Enige iemand wat belangstel om vir Agnita te help kan in kontak kom met haar. Kom ons staan saam vir toekoms van onse kinders en hulle kinders.



Agnita Jantjies besin orr die toekoms van die jeug in Hoogenoeg. Pic: Alexia Berger

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Every child has the right to be loved and respected

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS
Every child has the right to be protected from any harm

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS
Every child has a right to have a family.



Janet Jantjies is concerned about youth crime in Hoogenoeg. Pic: Alexia Berger

"You must keep them close to you, not with money or food, but love," she says. It must be about finding that which is good within the children and bringing that into the light "little by little, because they all have talents," she adds. Another mother from the Sun City area, Sheila Botha, is currently attempting to keep her son from falling into the crime trap. "I have rules in my house, take it or leave it," she says. She affirms that she will not have such things under her roof, and makes it clear to all those around her. "If I see you smoking in front of my house or around children, I will tell the police," she says. However, these strict rules are just to keep her sons from getting involved in crime. "That is my fear," she says.

"You must keep them close to you, not with money or food, but love,"

Being a parent to a child that does crime is not easy. It causes problems within the family, as well as in the larger community. An example of this occurred in the Hoogenoeg area over a weekend that a wedding celebration happened. The happiness was marred by a twelve year old girl having sex with a seventeen year old boy, as according to the law, this is rape. Rape is a crime, no matter the circumstances, but the terrible thing is that it has created heartache within the two young people's families, who know each other and are friendly. Janet Jantjies from Hoogenoeg relayed this story with a *date seee hart*. A parent to grown children, she has become a surrogate mother figure to the community around her, and believes that parents make the mistake of pushing their children away when they do something bad.

Crime doesn't pay, it hurts

By Jenna Beyleveld

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS
Children have the right to be children

"Out of nothing, we can get something"

By Jenna Beyleveld

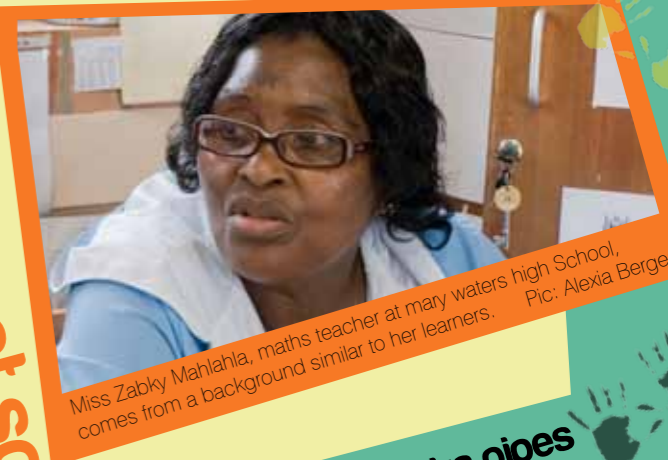
Being a teacher is not all about standing up in front of a class full of children, and Miss Zanky Mahlaha of Mary Waters High School is proof of that. Miss Mahlaha, who teaches Maths, came from humble beginnings. "I am from a working class background, we lived in a rented house in a back garden," she says. However, due to hard work and a love for the subject, she was the only Matric girl from her school to leave with Maths at that level. Upon going to L.L. Sebe Teacher Training College, she wished to continue with her passion, but was discouraged and instead focused on history and Xhosa. But the calling for Maths could not be ignored, and at her first teaching post, there was a position open in that department, and Miss Mahlaha stepped in to fill it. A Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Education (Honours) degree later, and she's teaching your children.

"Since 1982, I have taught Maths," Miss Mahlaha says. "I think I am married to Maths!" she laughs. She also hopes to dispel taboos that the subject has acquired. "People are scared of it, they think that it is a masculine subject and too difficult," she says.

As a Christian and a political figure within her community (Miss Mahlaha is an active member of the ANC), she believes that her roles come together in the form of sharing of information. "You must not be selfish with your information, you cannot be big headed alone!" she says, adding that "sharing is my policy."

It is Miss Mahlaha's hope that she will be seen as a role model within her community. Coming from the same background as most of her students, she hopes that they will see that they can accomplish anything if they put their minds to it. "Whatever hope they may have, I am a living example," she says. "The first house that my family saw with many rooms was my own house," she adds.

Her advice to parents? "Nobody must be shut off, we must share and advise each other. Even I take advice from my sixteen year old niece!"



Miss Zanky Mahlaha, maths teacher at Mary Waters High School, comes from a background similar to her learners. Pic: Alexia Berger

The dangers of Oka pipes

- Smoking Oka pipes can cause a lot of damage to the human body. Medical conditions that can arise include:
- Water on the lung and lung cancer
 - Gum disease
 - In a one hour oka session, users consume about 100 to 200 times the smoke and about 70 times the nicotine as they do in one cigarette.
 - If an oka pipe were to fall over, this could cause a fire to break out and possibly harm others.

Generation join up

Bridging the gap for a better community

Skryf jou doele neer oor hoe jy persoonlik die gemeenskap bymekaar kan bring, en hoe julle saam misdaad kan oplos. Hou hierdie bljete iewers veilig sodat jy gereeld daarna kan kyk en jouself kan herhinder oor jou doele

Beskerm jouself

- Moet onder geen omstandighede alleen loop nie. Dit is veel moeiliker vir 'n skelm om vir jou aan te val as daar meer as een is.
- Probeer om nie in die donker te loop nie.
- Trek altyd gemaklike skoene aan sodat jy kan hardloop as dit nodig is.
- Laat weet altyd vir iemand as jy van die huis af weg gaan.
- In enige geval waar jy ongemaklik voel, loop soe vinning as moontlik, of klop sommer aan enige deur sodat jy veilig kan wees.
- Moet nie vergeet om te skree nie, dit sal onmiddelik die persoon 'n skrik gee.
- Moet nie hardkoppig wees nie en probeer baklei met die persoon wat jou aanval. Hardloop liefste weg.

