

June 2017[View this email in your browser](#)

COMMISSIONERS' ACTIVITIES

International recognition for Commissioner Ameerma

A former town secretary of Louis Trichardt and currently Commissioner in the SA Human Rights Commission, Mohamed Shafie Ameerma, was selected to receive the prestigious 2017 Robert G. Storey International Award for Leadership.

Many residents will still remember the soft-spoken Shafie Ameerma from his days when he was appointed as town secretary of the Greater Louis Trichardt Council. This was back in May 1999, four years after the first democratic elections took place. At that stage, the town secretary department was somewhat of a mess, following a string of resignations and some unfortunate politically motivated appointments. It was left to a young lawyer from Lenasia to try and restore order and also to lay the foundations for fair and accountable government structures. (Source: Zoutnet) [Read more](#).



Bloemfontein guest house owner has to pay R15 000 for using the K-word

The owner of a guest house in Bloemfontein was ordered by the Equality Court to pay R15 000 in damages to a fast food outlet manager in Bloemfontein after she called him the K-word. (Source: OFM)

[Read more.](#)

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Deadline for comments on human rights body extended

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The committee, led by the late Kader Asmal, was appointed in 2006 to review Chapter 9 institutions and associated bodies, and to provide Parliament with a report in 2007. (Source: IOL [Read more](#))

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Life Esidimeni Progress Report to Be Handed Over to Speaker

Cape Town — Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi says he will soon give Speaker of the National Assembly, Baleka Mbete, a progress report on the implementation of the Life Esidimeni Ombudsman's report.

The Minister said this when he tabled the department's Budget Vote in Parliament on Tuesday.

This comes after the Ombudsman report, which was released in February, found that 94 mentally ill patients died after being removed from Life Healthcare Esidimeni to 27 NGOs (Source: All Africa) [Read more.](#)

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In late 2016, Minister Motsoaledi requested the Health Ombudsman, Professor Malegapuru Makgoba, to investigate the circumstances surrounding the deaths of these patients amid a national outcry.

UCT addressing concerns of disabled students

The institution has been reported to the Human Rights Commission for allegedly violating the rights of students with disabilities.

CAPE TOWN – The University of Cape Town (UCT) has been reported to the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) for allegedly violating the rights of students with disabilities. A group of students staged a sit in outside the institution's administration building earlier to call for the university's management to address grievances that have apparently been raised since the start of 2016.

They are calling for UCT to ensure there are enough wheelchair ramps and that fire alarms be made accessible to deaf students, (Source: EWN) Read more.



Zille gets served for 'colonialism' tweets

Cape Town - The South African Human Rights Commission's investigation into Premier Helen Zille's "colonialism" tweets is moving a step further when the rights body serves her papers on Friday.

It initiated an investigation into the saga and provincial commissioner André Gaum said the probe was in response to several complaints from across the country.

Gaum said that Zille would have 21 days to respond. "The complaint will not be investigated as hate speech, but as a potential violation of human dignity," he added, (Source: IOL) Read more.

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Western Cape Premier Helen Zille File picture: Henk Kruger/ANA Pictures

Underlying tones of racism in Coligny saga - NW SAHRC

Bloemfontein - Recent incidents that have occurred in the North West town of Coligny has underlying tones of racism. This is according to the South African Human Rights Commission in the province.

The South African Human Rights Commission's Provincial Manager, Mpho Boikanyo, says this is a fact that cannot be shied away from. Boikanyo says what is unfolding in the town right now is basically a specific race going against another race, (Source: OFM), Read more.

'Underlying tones of racism in Coligny saga' – NW SAHRC

MOEKETSI MOGOTSI

12:25 (GMT+2) Fri, 12 May 2017



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Boikanyo says what is unfolding in the town right now is basically a specific race going against another race.

"That shouldn't be happening in a democratic state. What we can

SA Human Rights Commission agrees to DA's request to investigate SADTU

The DA has been informed that the South African Human Rights Commission is investigating the South African Democratic Teachers Union (SADTU) for its role in denying children the right to a basic education.

This follows the DA's complaint to the Human Rights Commission in September 2015.

We specifically asked the Human Rights Commission to investigate the following:

- SADTU's blocking of measures to hold educators accountable for poor performance - including regular assessments, competency tests and performance agreements for Principals, (Source: Politics Web) Read more.

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POLITICS



SAHRC agrees to request to investigate SADTU – Gavin Davis

Gavin Davis | 11 May 2017

DA in process of making detailed submissions to Commission to highlight the extent of union's toxic influence

SA Human Rights Commission agrees to DA's request to investigate SADTU

One bucket toilet for 22 people in Ekurhuleni a human rights violation

The DA will write to the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) to investigate the sanitation situation at the L&J informal settlement in Ekurhuleni.

A news report today revealed a case where one bucket toilet that must be used by 22 people in the L&J informal settlement. This is but one example of the gross shortage of service delivery that this community faces.

Shamefully, municipal workers reportedly mock the situation by saying that residents 'eat a lot' when the limited toilets become full. This only adds insult to injury. (Source: Politics Web) [Read more.](#)

POLITICS



One bucket toilet for 22 people in Ekurhuleni a human rights violation – DA

Graham Gersbach | 08 May 2017

Party says residents also have to make use of communal water tanks in which they have reportedly found rats

One bucket toilet for 22 people in Ekurhuleni a human rights violation

8 May 2017

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No time for emergencies

SA's grandmothers are breadwinners in their old age, and their inability to access decent healthcare quickly impacts on their children, grandchildren and their entire communities. Health-e News' Kim Harrisberg reports. Six elderly women sit inside a corrugated iron shack in the Ngangelizwe township in Mthatha, a region with among the highest poverty rates in the Eastern Cape, to share their stories.

Like many South African grandmothers, they have become, in their old age, their families' breadwinners, supporting both their children and their grandchildren with their pension grants of R1 600 per month, (Source: News 24) [Read more.](#)



No time for emergencies

2017-05-07 06:01

Kim Harrisberg - **City Press**

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Six elderly women sit inside a corrugated iron shack in the Ngangelizwe township in Mthatha, a region with among the highest poverty rates in the Eastern Cape, to share their stories.

What To Read Next



Naked, bound body discovered on Chapman's Peak after body found on Table Mountain

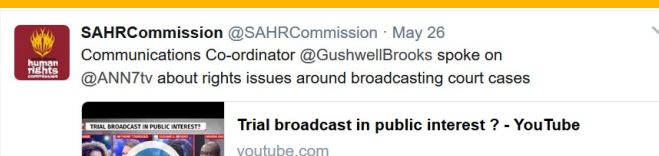
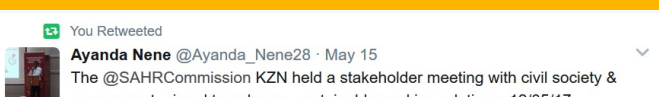


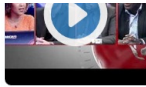
#GuptaEmails: Tony Gupta allegedly called Saxonwold security guards 'monkeys'

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

SAHRC ON TWITTER @SAHRCCommission







Communications Coordinator Gushwell Brooks on One Day Leader discussing Socio Economic Rights



HUMAN RIGHTS DAYS

Youth Day, 16 June

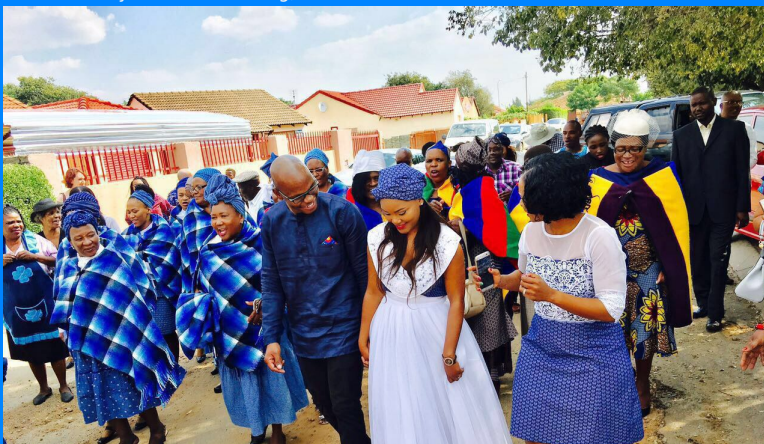
June 16, 1976 Uprising began in Soweto and spread countrywide and changed the socio-political landscape in South Africa. June 16 uprising can be traced back to policies of the Apartheid government that resulted in the introduction of the Bantu Education Act in 1953. When the language of Afrikaans alongside English was made compulsory as a medium of instruction in schools in 1974, black students began mobilizing themselves.

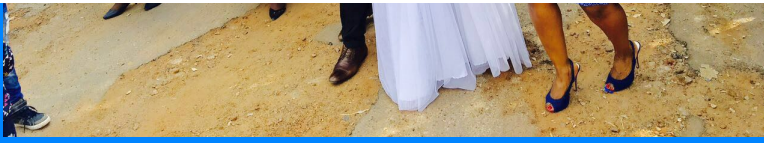
On 16 June 1976 between 3000 and 10 000 students mobilized by the South African Students Movement's Action Committee supported by the Black Conscious Movement marched peacefully to demonstrate and protest against the government's directive. The march was meant to culminate at a rally in Orlando Stadium.

On their pathway they were met by heavily armed police who fired teargas and later live ammunition on demonstrating students. This resulted in a widespread revolt that turned into an uprising against the government. While the uprising began in Soweto, it spread across the country and carried on until the following year.

Congratulations Kwanele Phakati

They are married! Congratulations to our Legal Consultant Kwanele Phakati and his wife Kebafilwe, who tied the knot on 06 May 2017 in Mafikeng, North West.





Congratulations Karabo Kgosana

Its a girl! Our Assistant Accountant Karabo Kgosana and her partner were blessed with a baby Kaone on 13th December 2016. Join us in congratulating Karabo and her partner.



BIRTHDAYS

Collin Songwe (HO) – 01st

Anelisa Bulana (HO) – 03rd

Oarabile Gaoraelwe (NW) – 04th

Jabulile Gumedede (HO) & Carol Ngwenyama (MP) – 05th

Chantelle Williams (NC) – 08th

Musawenkosi Mchunu (HO) – 09th

Sibongiseni Tula (HO) – 14th

Barbara Moloi (HO), Nompumelelo Sobekwa (HO), & Nonandi
Diko (WC) – 20th

Lauren O'Reilly (GP) – 22nd

Lufuzo Yona (EC) – 25th

Siyasanga Giyose (HO) & Neo Tsikwane (FS) & Harriette Buga (GP) – 26th

Phillip Molekoa (GP) – 29th

Sandile Mdunusana (HO) – 30th

TALK TO US...



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Braamfontein, 2017**

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