

# MOOI-UMNGENI TODAY

## Online Edition 3/2020

**Covering:** Mooi River, Bruntville, Rosetta, Nottingham Road, Lidgetton, Balgowan, Currys Post, Howick, Karkloof, Mpophomeni, Merrivale, Hilton, Cedara, Impendle

### NEW LEADERS AIM FOR VICTORY

After a lengthy consultative process the Democratic Alliance in KwaZulu-Natal has allocated political heads to the various constituencies in the Province. The Mooi-uMngeni Constituency has been allocated Member of Parliament **Greg Krumbock** and Member of the Provincial Parliament **Christopher Pappas**.

The Mooi-uMngeni Constituency comprises the **uMngeni**, **Mpofana** and **Impendle** local municipalities and falls within the northern areas of uMngungundlovu District Municipality. This includes Mooi River, Bruntville, Rosetta, Nottingham Road, Lidgetton, Lions River, Howick, Karkloof, Merrivale, Hilton, Mpophomeni, Impendle and Lotheni.



Greg krumbock MP. Chris Pappas MPL.  
MOOI-UMNGENI CONSTITUENCY HEADS

#### Greg Krumbock MP

Greg (59) grew up in Cape Town and after obtaining a BCom degree at UCT, relocated to the KZN Midlands in 1986. He has a long history of fighting for freedom and democracy in our country, mainly in election capacities in the PFP, DP then DA, two of its forerunners, stretching back to the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) in 1976. He served as Executive Director (CEO) of the DA for six years, and also as KZN provincial chairperson for three terms. He is currently the second-longest serving DA MP in the National Assembly where he has served mainly on the tourism committee, promoting research based models to market our country and successfully persuading the tourism committee to address the Howick Falls area dilapidation and advertise the Nelson Mandela Capture Site through "brown signs" on the N3. An amateur but keen astronomer and historian, his fondest wish is to continue the DA's steady growth in uMngeni from 42% to a victory next year and thereby deliver fair rates and efficient, quality services to all.

#### Christopher Pappas MPL

Chris (29) grew up in Mooi River where his family still farms. He spent his childhood between Mooi River and Howick, frequently helping out in his aunt's material and fabric warehouse. In 2009 Chris matriculated from Hilton college and went on to study a Bachelors degree in Town and Regional Planning at the University of Pretoria. Chris currently holds the portfolio of spokesperson for Agriculture and Rural Development in KwaZulu-Natal. Prior to becoming a member of the Provincial Parliament he served as a ward councillor in the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality where he was also the chairperson of the DA's biggest voting block in KwaZulu-Natal. He has also worked as an operations manager with the DA and as a Development Economist in the private sector. Chris is a graduate of the DA Young Leaders Programme. He brings with him a new youthful dynamic to the leadership of the constituency with the hopes of being the voice for the residents of the Mooi-uMngeni area in the Provincial Parliament.

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# HEALTH MATTERS

## KwaZulu-Natal's Health System needs Transparency, Cooperation & Good Governance to survive the Covid-19 Pandemic

**South Africa and KwaZulu-Natal** is facing its biggest health crisis since the 1918 Influenza Pandemic. World health systems are combatting the novel Coronavirus also known as Covid-19. There are numerous strains of Coronavirus that are already known. It is the most common viral cause of the common cold. Covid-19 is the latest strain and is more commonly related to SARS and MERS. Even though it is only 5 months old, there is some information that is known. It is more contagious, fatal and produces more severe disease in identified vulnerable groups. These groups include the elderly, those with chronic diseases and the individuals who are immunosuppressed.

Approximately 82% of people will have no or mild symptoms, 18% of cases will have severe symptoms requiring hospitalisation and sadly 5% of these patients will die. These statistics are much higher than for influenza and other respiratory diseases. This high rate of hospitalisation, the rapid pace of admissions and high fatalities is the reason for the global coordination to combat the virus. This is also the main motivation for the lockdown we are all currently experiencing. As Prof Salim Abdul Karim has stated the lockdown's main purpose is to delay the peak of hospital admission to allow our public health system to prepare quarantine and ICU beds, ventilators, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and staffing.



**Dr Rishigen Virana MPL**  
**DA Spokesperson on Health in**  
**KwaZulu-Natal**

KwaZulu-Natal was the site of South Africa's first case. As the Democratic Alliance in the health portfolio committee, we have been monitoring the situation very closely. However, the main problem has been receiving a comprehensive Covid-19 Mitigation Plan from the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health. We have submitted parliamentary questions for the modelling, capacity, and readiness of the Department of Health. Regardless, interventions have been put in place. Specialised quarantine and treatment centres have been opened at Greys, Addington, Ngwelezane and Manguzi Hospitals while various district hospitals are building isolation wards. Additionally, there are field hospitals at Clairwood Hospital, the Royal Showgrounds and Durban Exhibition Centre. There has been cooperation between the public and private sectors. This is in line with the Democratic Alliance's Sizwe Health Plan for universal quality healthcare for all KZN citizens. This indicates that where there is effort made, quality healthcare can be universally accessed without resorting to the disastrous National Health Insurance scheme.

As the Democratic Alliance, we have been monitoring the global Covid-19 response. The common denominator with successful country approaches has been transparency and information sharing with citizens. We have seen that when citizens know their local infection rates, they are more compliant with self-isolation regulations. This is not happening in KwaZulu-Natal. As the Democratic Alliance, we have submitted a PAIA application to have district, municipality, and health facility-specific case numbers. We are concerned for the wellbeing of healthcare personnel. KwaZulu-Natal has the highest number infected healthcare workers. They must be provided with the sufficient PPE and psychological support. The current stigmatisation of healthcare workers must end. We will continue with our constitutional oversight to ensure that all residents are protected during this health crisis.

# SAVING LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS

# OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

DA public representatives and members of the Howick community came to the support of local SAPS and health care workers. 100 visors were generously donated through a fundraising effort by Crimson Laser, a Howick based company. DA public representatives matched the donations to double the number of visors. Altogether, 200 visors were donated to front line service personal in the Midlands. The beneficiaries were SAPS were the SAPS in Howick, Nottingham Road, Hilton, Mooi River and Mpophomeni as well as the Mpophomeni, Howick, Balgowan, Mooi River and Bruntville health care centres and clinics.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY



**Picture:** Cllr Craig Millar and Cllr Pam Passmoor handing over protective visors to SAPS Hilton.



Through the generous donations received by the community the DA was able to contribute 55 food parcels to the Umngeni Relief Network feeding programme. Over R10 500 was raised in less than a week. The first 55 families have been assisted through the online Food Insecurity Register. DA public representatives are working alongside NGOs to try and ensure that vulnerable members of the community are assisted.



**Picture above:** Preparing to pack the first 55 food hampers

**Picture Right:** Cllr Sandile Mnikati assisting with the preparation of food parcels

## WEAR A FACE MASK IN PUBLIC

FOR MORE FAQs PLEASE VISIT: <https://www.da.org.za/defeatingcoronavirus>

# NO FARMERS. NO FOOD. NO FUTURE.

**The DA in KwaZulu-Natal is fighting for the farmers and farmworkers that provide our food.**

**A survey by the Democratic Alliance** has revealed that 21% of farmers in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) have experienced an increase in crime during the lockdown period. More than 39% of farmers felt that their personal safety and security has been compromised during the current lockdown period.

The random survey, conducted amongst 45 commercial and small-scale farmers across the province showed that crime including theft of tools/machinery, theft of crops such as maize and vegetables as well as stock-theft has increased. The information was collated during the period between the 2nd and 10th April.

The DA is extremely concerned by what the survey has shown. Given the increasing desperation being felt by so many people in the province, it is highly likely that these results may have increased over the last week or so. Increasing hunger and loss of income has created a situation where people resort to desperate means to survive, notwithstanding that there are also criminals who will utilise the lockdown to their own advantage.

It is clear from these results that KZN's Agriculture MEC, Bongile Sithole-Moloi and her Department need to take a more proactive approach and lead the fight in prioritising farm safety. With increasing incidents of looting and theft, it is imperative that a plan be put in place to ensure that food production and lives are protected. This needs to be done as a collaborative effort with the Department of Community Safety and the Office of the Premier in KZN.

It is for this reason that the DA has written to MEC Sithole-Moloi as well as the provincial MEC for Community Safety and the Premier to request that the following four steps be urgently considered in an effort to ensure continued food security and the protection of food production lines in the province;

- Support for security initiatives within in farming communities through direct and indirect subsidisation. Direct subsidisation would include conditional allocations from the departmental budget through emergency reprioritisation mechanisms. These would be paid in support of security initiatives being provided by authorised security companies. Indirect subsidisation would include the purchase of farm radios, CCTV cameras, LPR camera's, etc. This equipment and support

would help to reduce the financial stress on already heavily burdened farmers.

- Increased allocation of resources to stock-theft units. The MEC for Agriculture, through the MEC for Community Safety, must ensure that KZN's stock-theft units are sufficiently resourced to react to the increasing threats against livestock.
- Smart deployment of neighbourhood watches, farm watches and Community Police Forums. The MEC for Agriculture must engage with the MEC for Community Safety to ensure the smart deployment of neighbourhood watches (NHW), farm watches and Community Police Forums (CPF) to assist the under-resourced South African Police Services (SAPS) and military to ensure public safety during the lockdown
- Establishment of task team. MEC Sithole-Moloi, in conjunction with the Department of Community Safety, needs to establish a task team to investigate and track all incidents of crime that affect food security. Working with farming associations and cooperatives, the task team should aim to track incidents and assist law enforcement to react to high risk and hotspot areas in KZN.

The DA has submitted these proposals to MEC Sithole-Moloi, her Community Safety counterpart and the Premier. We sincerely hope that they will acknowledge and implement our suggestions in the spirit of collaboration as expressed by the President.



**Christopher Pappas MPL**  
**DA Spokesperson on Agriculture**  
**and Rural Development in KZN**

## STOP LAND EXPROPRIATION WITHOUT COMPENSATION

# A MESSAGE FROM THE UMNGENI CAUCUS



**Cllr Janis Holmes**  
**DA uMngeni Caucus**  
**Leader**

If a healthy democracy requires open dialogue and transparency then democracy in the uMngeni Municipality is in critical care. There have only been two public notices issued on what municipal services will be rendered under the lockdown since the 26<sup>th</sup> of March. The second only coming out a full week into Level Four. This is despite constant requests from the DA for updated information on any changes to services. Councillors have been inundated with queries relating to municipal services that can only be answered by municipal management but, trying to get hold of managers has been a serious challenge.

We have also only had two Executive Committee meetings, and no other Council or Committee meetings, since the start of the lockdown. Even members of the ANC have pointed out that reports were flimsy and without much substance.

One of the main functions of a municipal council is to exercise oversight over management and their handling of municipal affairs. Legislation requires that we are provided with transparent reporting so that we can hold management to account. We should be able to ask questions and get straight answers. If we are not getting reports or honest answers from management our hands are tied and management are not held accountable.

We have regularly raised our concerns about the lack of transparency and accountability at uMngeni with the Mayor and the MEC of CoGTA, particularly with regards to the office of the Municipal Manager. It seems this pressure has paid off as at the most recent Executive Committee meeting the committee frankly discussed the Municipal Manager's lack of communication, non-attendance of meetings and uMngeni's poor performance since Ms Cibane took the helm. The lockdown has starkly revealed her incapacity and the Executive Committee has resolved that steps must be taken to discipline her for not carrying out her mandate.

The DA welcomes this step in the right direction and is relieved that the ANC has eventually seen the light on the issue of the Municipal Manager. We wish that the ANC had listened to us over the past two and a half years as we have consistently objected to her seemingly irregular appointment.

We have still not seen the selection committee minutes or scoring sheets related to Ms Cibane's appointment, even though we have asked for them in Public Access to Information Applications and through a motion to Council after it was revealed that she scored in the lowest possible bracket on a competency test. Transparency during the selection process would have probably have averted her appointment.

The Dalai Lama said that, "a lack of transparency results in distrust and a deep sense of insecurity". We live in an information driven age and when information is withheld it creates distrust and insecurity.

In DA run municipalities transparency and accountability are not just words that are bandied about but are values and principles that guide government services. This is what we need in uMngeni. We need a Council that will perform its duties, listen to its residents and ensure decent service delivery for all residents without fear or favour. But, most of all, will be honest with residents and transparent about municipal affairs and finances.

The DA **only needs 9%** more of the vote to become the governing party in uMngeni in 2021. We need your help to revive uMngeni from its sick bed and instil a true "people centred" culture of respect and transparency.

The 2020/2021 Draft Budget should be available soon for public comment and input. We encourage all uMngeni residents to go through it and make written submissions. Our local economy will need the municipality to step up and ensure that the new budget speaks to the needs of our residents and businesses during these uncertain and unprecedented times.

## ONLY 9% MORE TO WIN UMNGENI

# IGCIWANE ye-CORONA



Njengoba umongameli waseNingizimu Afrika uMnumzane Cyril Ramaphosa enxuse izakhamuzi zakulelile ukuthi azehlale emakhaya ngenxa yegciwane i-Corona virus, imithelelo yalolu hlelo ukumiswa yemisebenzi. Izakhamuzi zaseMngeni kanye nosomabizinisi namaNGO ahluka hlukeno aqale omkhankaso wokunikela ngokudla kwabantu abamisiwe emsebenzini kanye nabaswele.

Ngxenxa yesimo sokuthi kunabantu abathola ukudla okuningi mese kube khona abangatholi lutho nhlobo. Umasipala waseMngeni namaNGO babone ukuthi kungaba ngcono uma usebenzisana nosomabizinisi, abalimi kanye nama khansela wonke ngaphansi kwe uMngeni Joint Operations Centre. Loluhlelo luzimisele ngokukhipha amafood parcels afikele ku5000 ngesonto.

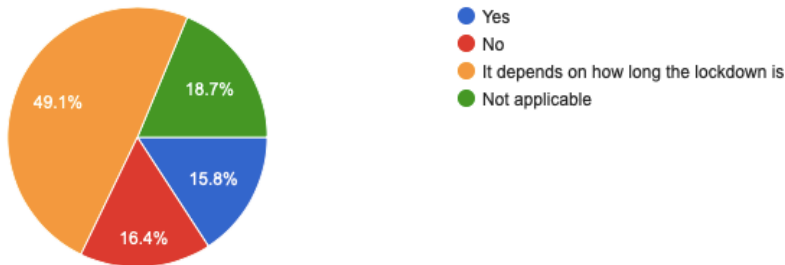
**Cllr Sandile Mnikati**  
**DA uMngeni Caucus Chairperson**

## DA IN UMNGENI TACKLES ECONOMIC WOES

The Democratic Alliance has placed an emphasis on the need to consider both lives and livelihoods in the fight against the Coronavirus. The current interventions by the government do not fit the reality of South Africans. It is estimated that 7 million jobs could be lost due to the various economic issues facing the country. These include uncertainty around policy, growing debt, ratings down grades, power shortages, labour issues and the affects of the lockdown. This is 7 million jobs in addition to the current figure of 10 million unemployed.

Will your business survive the lockdown?

171 responses

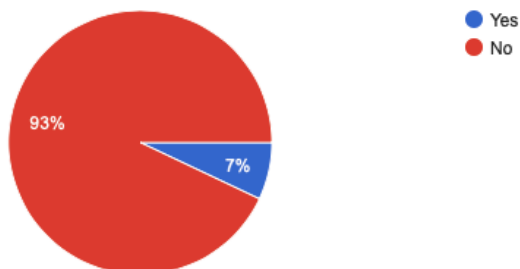


The Democratic Alliance in the uMngeni Municipality has launched an online survey to gather data on the state of the local economy. The DA aims to proactively compile this data into a set of proposals that will be presented to the Mayor and the council. The proposals will focus on repairing the damaged uMngeni economy as well as leveraging local assets to create new jobs.

**Figure:** Survival of businesses

Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) criteria should apply to business seeking support from the municipality?

171 responses



Preliminary results, shown in the figures to the left, indicate that the extended lockdown has a severe affect on the local economy and that prolonging it any further could result in the total collapse of the uMngeni economy.

BBBEE, which has not resulted in the transformation of the economy or the empowerment of Black South Africans, has also been dismissed by respondents as a mechanism that government should use to determine who should get assistance.

**Figure:** BBBEE as a requirement for assistance

## ONLY 9% MORE TO WIN UMNGENI

# UMLANDO

We have added a new feature to our news letter called **UMLANDO** which means **HISTORY** in isiZulu. It is dedicated to sharing the history of the Democratic Alliance and the people who have grown the organisation over the years.

There is an isiZulu saying: You can learn wisdom at your grandfather's feet, or at the end of a stick.

**Meaning:** If you pay attention to what your elders are telling you and follow their advice, you won't have to learn things the hard way through experience. If you don't absorb what they have to say, you will have to learn your lessons by making mistakes and accepting the often-painful consequences.

## GILLIAN NOYCE

“I was born in 1942 in Johannesburg still have vague memories of my mother organising games evenings to raise money for the troops during the war. My father was a magistrate so we moved around a bit. My formative years were spent in a small village in the Transkei called Mqanduli which is en route to Coffee Bay. I consider myself fortunate to have grown up in such close contact with people from all walks of life. I feel at home in every community that I work.

I was sent away to boarding school in East London and after 3 happy years at Clarendon Girls High we were moved to Pretoria where I attended Pretoria Girls High School. It was my first real contact with Afrikaans speaking people and with politics and apartheid.

After school I went to Rhodes University to do a BA. My majors were History and Geography. I loved the History but the Geography has been more useful. Our History Prof was from Oxford and was very liberal. She opened my eyes to many of the truths of apartheid which I might not have known or perhaps even understood. One of my tutors was Michael Nuttall the prominent Anglican Bishop in KwaZulu-Natal. I used to teach night school at Rhodes and became very aware that peoples' chances in life were not any alike or equal but my father explained that if I joined marches against the govt and lost my bursary that would be the end of my studies.

I went to Varsity on a Government bursary to become a teacher. I very much wanted to do History Honours but my father insisted I get a qualification first. So, I went down to UCT for my teachers studies. I met my husband at UCT. He was studying engineering. After leaving UCT I had to teach for 3 years in terms of my bursary and got a post at the lovely Rustenburg Girls High School in CT where I taught Geography up to Matric.

With my bursary paid off I headed for overseas like so many young people. My husband was doing his MSc in the UK. I taught in London for a year and travelled a great deal. My husband and I came home to get married and then headed for the USA where we lived for 3 years where my husband got an American passport. We left reluctantly because we were very happy there but we both had family responsibilities back in SA.



**FREEDOM. FAIRNESS. OPPORTUNITY. DIVERSITY**

# UMLANDO

Michael, my husband got a job in then Salisbury (Harare) where his family lived. Our 3 children were born in Zimbabwe and we only left because we were worried about our middle child who has Downs Syndrome not getting a proper education in Zimbabwe.

Michael was with an international firm who asked him to come to Durban rather than Johannesburg and we have been here ever since. Soon after we arrived I looked to get involved with the Progs as I had several friends who were members. I worked in a number of elections and clearly remember how the constituency of Kloof was joined to Greytown to balance out the English liberal voters of Kloof. Hillcrest was then so small it was hardly worth mentioning!



In 1996 the DP/DA was looking for candidates to become councillors and I was approached. I was excited at the prospect of doing something so different and jumped at the opportunity. We had to stand against our own Ratepayer Associations which was difficult but all of us who stood were elected and a new career had begun. I opted to serve on Town Planning where my Geography was of some use and I learned a great deal. We were only responsible for white areas although I had the Stockville Valley in my area and encountered my first squatters!

After a relatively peaceful 5 years during which we used to earn about R3000.00 a month we were all amalgamated into the big Durban Metro and a very different experience. I was elected as Ward Councillor for Hillcrest and Waterfall and now had the large rural area of Molweni to care for as well.

This was my happiest spell as a councillor. We had a diverse group of people working together on the new ward committee and I grew to love Molweni and its people. It was a time of progress for the area - we had many new roads and sidewalks built, 2 new clinics were built as well as a Provincial clinic. I remember site meetings I attended which always started with counting the bags of cement. I attended the iziNduna's meetings and generally built bridges. I belonged to both Hillcrest and Waterfall Ratepayers' Associations as well as the Hillcrest Conservancy and CPF and the Shongweni Landfill Monitoring Committee. I served in Council on the Town Planning Committee. The Council still had money and expertise and I felt we were making good progress. Towards the end of that spell my husband suffered a heart attack and was told to avoid stress wherever possible. He used to worry about me going down to Molweni over weekends especially and I decided to become a PR Councillor instead.

I have continued as a PR Councillor ever since and have become very interested in sustainability, climate change and biodiversity as I have had more time to study them and do oversight on wetlands and landfill sites etc.

If I have any advice for new councillors it would be this - **it is important that you enjoy this work and have family support; try very hard not to make/have enemies anywhere, they don't go well with politics; find an area or areas that really interest you and become knowledgeable in them. None of us know something about all the aspects of Council work but in order to contribute you should become a bit of an expert on something. I always wished I was better equipped technically but that will not be a problem for young ones. It is a job about taking responsibility for your own actions, organisational skills, confidence, contacts and a sense of enjoying the work."**

**FREEDOM. FAIRNESS. OPPORTUNITY. DIVERSITY**