

# SPREADING RICHES

By ANIL SINGH

LOCAL residents are benefiting from 46 activity licences awarded by the iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority.

The licences are for a range of activities including boat cruises, fishing, scuba diving, horse trails, game drives and kayaking.

The park in northern Kwa-Zulu Natal granted the licences on the condition that the local community be given majority ownership and management to transform local tourism.

Park commercial director Terri Castis said it is exciting to be part of an empowerment programme like this.

A number of local residents will be getting jobs from these new business opportunities.

Theminkosi Ndlovu, who owns Tombi Charters, now has his own boat.

"I will try by all means to give my guests all they need and I won't hesitate to seek professional advice if my business has challenges.

"I want to teach people all they need to know about fishing and sea safety," said Ndlovu.

Whale watching is another activity that attracts large numbers of tourists.

Nonhlanhla Biyela has been given the licence to run whale watching activities and is very realistic about her business.

## Tourism helps community



Mandy Muir, Nonhlanhla Biyela and Sipho Msweli run a whale-watching business in northern KwaZulu-Natal.

"Running a business is a risk. We are very aware of the threat the weather poses. We have had many trips cancelled, but it is just one of the challenges beyond our control," she said.

Sipho Msweli, her partner in the business, said he has dreamt of being in the whale-watching

business for many years.

"I have been in the tourism business for 11 years, but I had no luck in getting into whale watching.

"It has been very difficult. I even went as far as Cape Town to seek advice about the business. The wait has been well

worth it," said Msweli.

Andrew Zaloumis, CEO of iSimangaliso, said: "It is said that tourism is an industry that can spread wealth.

"This is not always the case, but iSimangaliso is making it a reality through its empowerment programmes."

# Strike comes back to haunt workers...

By ANIL SINGH

LAST year's public servants' strike is hitting workers in their pockets!

The KZN government says it has recovered over R160 million from employees who took part in the strike.

The "no work, no pay" principle was applied and deductions are being made. Most deductions have been made, except in education, health and transport, where employees didn't strike.

The government said the education department has deducted R144 728 621 from 80 782 employees since February. National Teachers Union members have declared a dispute, which goes to court on 8 September. It's expected that outstanding deductions will be made before the end of December.

■ The legislature has welcomed the arrest of businessman Raj Kapoor Lakraj for allegedly defrauding the public works department of over R87 million. He's out on R200 000 bail.

He faces 147 counts of fraud and one of corruption arising from the awarding of black empowerment construction tenders to Quantum Leap Investments and Dreamteam Trading 562. Documents show the only controlling shareholder was an African woman.

Premier Zweli Mkhize said: "The arrest is part of our offensive to root out fraud and corruption."



Teachers demonstrate outside Quarry Heights Primary School in Durban. Photos by Sizwe Nkomo

## Teachers dump pupils

By MUZI ZINCUME

THE gatvol teachers finally walked out of the classroom to protest.

"We can't carry on working with death threats from the school governing body hanging over our heads," a teacher told *Daily Sun*.

Teachers from Quarry Heights Primary School in Avoca, Durban, said they are sick and tired of threats and intimidation from members of the governing body.

They said members storm into their classrooms and interrupt them while they are teaching.

One of the senior teachers said they had been working under terrible conditions for a long time.

"We will not go back if this governing body is not dissolved," she said.

The teachers started their protest on Tuesday, sending pupils home early. There was no teaching at all on Wednesday and yesterday.

Governing body secretary Thami Nzama said that he was not aware of the protest.

"We will attend a meeting to discuss some challenges at the school," said Nzama.

KZN department of education's Sihle Mlosthwa said they would investigate.

## Man shot in fight over debt

By SUN REPORTER

A MAN was shot and wounded in Kandahar Avenue, Ladysmith, on Wednesday evening – allegedly during a fight over money.

Cops said Vusi Zwane (37) and two friends had gone to collect a debt at a man's house when an argument broke out.

The 51-year-old man then allegedly drew a gun and fired several shots. Zwane was hit three times

in the arm and is recovering in hospital, but his friends escaped unharmed.

Captain Charmaine Struwig said Zwane and his friends later handed themselves over to cops after the shooting, but Zwane had to be taken to hospital because he'd been shot in the head.

She said he may have sustained the injuries during the fight. Investigations continue.

SIVEST  
Environmental Division

SIVEST

BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (EMPr) FOR  
THE PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF A 500m<sup>3</sup> BULK STORAGE FUEL OIL TANK AT THE  
GROOTVLEI POWER STATION, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

DEA EIA Ref. No. 12/12/20/2358  
NEAS Ref. No. DEA/EIA/000418/2011

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1996 (Act No. 107 of 1996) as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, under Government Notices No R543 and R544 promulgated on 18 June 2010, Section 24 (5) read with section 44 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1996), notice is hereby given that Eskom Holdings has appointed SIVEST, as the independent environmental consultants, to undertake the required Basic Assessment and public participation for the above-mentioned proposed project in terms of the following listed activity:

**Government Notice R544 (18 June 2010)**  
Listing 1 Activity (42)

The proposed development and associated infrastructure will consist of:

- Installation of additional 500m<sup>3</sup> Bulk Storage Fuel Oil Tank which will be above ground, and
- Associated Infrastructure.

The proposed application site is the Grootvlei Power Station

You are hereby informed that SIVEST has submitted the relevant Application Form to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and that this proposed project is registered with DEA under the following reference numbers:

- DEA Reference Number – 12/12/20/2358; and
- NEAS Reference number: DEA/EIA/000418/2011.

You are requested to register as an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP). To register as the Interested and / or Affected Party (I&AP) and to obtain additional information (Background Information Document) please submit your name, contact details and the interest which you have in the application within 30 days from the date of this notice.

Please direct enquiries, in writing (letter, fax or e-mail), to the Public Participation Consultants below:

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