

ROBERTSON AGRIMARK'S NQUBELA PROJECT

Terese du Toit, Administrative clerk, reported that the needs of the community made Robertson Agrimark focus on the Nqubela area in Robertson. Two daycare centres in the area were identified which were in urgent need of assistance.

Terese and Johan Myburgh, Manager, came across a two and three roomed wendy house where daily care had to be taken of more than 40 children of parents who work on farms in the area. According to Terese the conditions in this area were really poor and they were in urgent need of mattresses, blankets, toys and educational material.

Tersese immediately started collecting clothes and toys for the little ones, requisites for the babies as well as mattresses and blankets.



In the end they were in a position to provide both centres with boxes full of clothes and toys as well as mattresses and blankets which without doubt make a big difference to these centres. Terese said that the personnel were very excited when the goods were handed over to them.

According to Terese this project was Robertson Agrimark's way of showing that they really care about their community.

KAAP AGRICOMMUNITY LEARNER EXCELS

Preline Swart, the Kaap Agri Academy's top student for 2015, received the AgriSETA award for the best performer in a skills program. The award included prize money of R10,000. Bathopele, the service provider who presents the program at the Academy, received the award as the AgriSETA's best service provider.

Since its inception in 2009, the Kaap Agri Academy has been presenting a farmer development program for emerging farmers, and during this period the top student was a finalist for this award every year. Preline is now the third learner to win this coveted award.

Preline and her husband, Ralph, are prominent farmers in the Overberg region and Preline currently also holds the position of vice-chairperson of GrainSA.



Photo: Barend Sulvester (Kaap Agri), Belinda Louw (Bathopele) and Preline and Ralph Swart.

PAARL AGRIMARK DONATES STATIONERY TO LOCAL FARM SCHOOL

Aldrin Soudien, Junior Manager, reported that Paarl Agrimark decided to reach out to a crèche on the local Eksteen Family Farm. The stationery

was needed to improve the functioning of the crèche and the new After-care Centre. The school caters for approximately 25 children on a daily basis.



Photo: Aldrin enjoying the moment with the children of the crèche

According to Aldrin the children were very excited when they arrived on the farm to hand over the goods.

STELLENBOSCH AGRIMARK TAKES HANDS WITH TOMORROW'S HOPE

Stefanie Dames, Alette van Zyl and Génell van Zyl, three students from the Prestige Academy in Bellville, started Tomorrow's Hope as a project to empower the youth. It is their endeavour to create a happy and warm environment to support caring staff, and to assure parents that their children are safe.



SPRINGBOK AGRIMARK SPONSORS SWAKARA INFORMATION DAY



Schalk le Roux reported that Springbok Agrimark sponsored a Swakara information day for emerging farmers where the purpose of the day was to encourage emerging farmers in the Richtersveld area to become involved with Swakara farming.

The speakers at the event were Tobie le Roux, Wessel Visser and Andre Swart.

The topics under scrutiny were the advantages and disadvantages linked to the Swakara breed, and why the Richtersveld environment agrees well with the breed.

Lastly the focus was placed on the marketing of the fur and ways to revitalise the Swakara breed.

STELLENBOSCH AGRIMARK SUPPORTS TREES FOR LIFE PROJECT

Manager, Remé Levens, reported that Stellenbosch Agrimark decided to take hands with Wildlands Conservation Trust for their CSI project. Their "Trees for Life" project encourages learners to grow seedlings to barter for Qhubeka bicycles next year.



Photo: Group f.l.t.r. Andreas Claassens (Holistic Trade cc.), Veliswa Mpasayiya (NRM), Remé Levens (Agrimark Manager), Mavis Nongogo (NRM), Mr RB van Rooyen (principal), Nontanana Mbadamana (NRM), Mr Uylan Lackay (Teacher), Leon Henn (Agrimark Sales)

The project, which was deployed at the Rietenbosch Primary School in Stellenbosch gave 100 learners the opportunity to be treepreneurs by nurturing and caring for 15 plants. Next year, with the successful completion of the task, the learners will each be issued with Qhubeka bicycles.

With the sponsorship of the Stellenbosch Agrimark, a mini nursery was constructed at the school, where close to 1,000 seedlings will be grown. The sponsorship included poles, shade netting and fencing to secure the nursery.



Photo: Taylor Michaels (learner & beneficiary), Veliswa Mpasayiya (NRM worker), Mr Uylan Lackay (Rietenbosch School teacher).