

**July 2011**

### **Best quality of life in Gauteng**

A recent study by the Gauteng Government placed the Midvaal area as the best in terms of quality of life in the province. "While we are all very proud of these findings, we cannot sit back for a minute," says Councilor Timothy Nast, Midvaal's Executive Mayor. "There is still much work to be done in realising this beautiful area's untapped potential."

Councilor Nast's vision for Midvaal, which has a population of more than 100 000, is to ensure that residents continue enjoying a good quality of life by maintaining existing infrastructure, improving services to underdeveloped areas and working towards a people-friendly and efficient municipality that responds to citizen's needs in an affordable manner.

During the 2009/2010 financial year, Midvaal embarked on the largest road maintenance and upgrading programme in its 10 year history. The main electrical substation was upgraded to double supply capacity and the first phase of improving water reticulation along the R59 Industrial Corridor was also completed.

In his budget speech shortly after the municipal elections in May this year, Councilor Nast pointed out that expenditure for the 2011/2012 operating budget now totals just less than R550 million. "Midvaal's first operating budget some 10 years ago was only R125 million and this huge increase reflects the unbelievable growth in our rates base that has made Midvaal the fastest growing municipality in Gauteng."

Another feather in Midvaal's cap is the five prestigious awards received earlier in the year at the Professional Management Review-Africa Sedibeng District Leaders and Achievers Awards. The awards ceremony is an annual event held throughout South Africa to honour leaders and achievers who contribute to a specific area's economic growth and development.

Midvaal was acknowledged for its contribution in five categories within the Sedibeng district. Midvaal received a joint 1<sup>st</sup> place overall award for doing the most to attract both foreign and local investment. Another 1<sup>st</sup> place overall award was received for doing the most to fight crime and social upliftment. A joint 1<sup>st</sup> place overall award for doing the most for job creation. The municipality was also acknowledged for its cleanliness and Councilor Nast received an overall award in the category of pro-active mayors.

"Midvaal not only has a high quality of life, but accelerated economic development and the lowest unemployment rate in the province," Councilor Nast points out.

It seems that Eye of Africa Golf & Residential Estate is not just "South Africa's Best", but has certainly positioned itself within a municipality considered by many as South Africa's best.