

Biko faces Okahandja head-on

SWAPO Councilor says 'it is not business as usual'

By Asser Ntinda

"Okahandja: Welcome to the Garden Town," reads a big sign-board outside the town that greets visitors to Okahandja from Windhoek, the town still not visible, hidden behind long trees. A short drive past Five Rand, and a sharp turn to the left, then you are in Okahandja.



One of the vulnerable children being registered at Ileni Tulikwafeni Center at Five Rand. Councilor Steve 'Biko' Booyis observes the registration process. Photo by Anna Nakambale.

Okahandja is a town that has been gardening itself for many years in many ways. Its dreams are big, but so too, are its resolve and zeal to see them through. Problems are many and overarching, but its resi-

dents have not given up hope. Behind every dark cloud, they say, there is a silver line.

Okahandja is a town on the move, ready to shake off the challenges that have been haunting it for many years. In February this year, it went through a grueling and taxing election campaign that catapulted young Steve Biko Booyis to the highest Office in Okahandja Constituency.

Cde Booyis is SWAPO Party Councilor for Okahandja Constituency. He cruised to victory at a supersonic speed in February, bruising eight opposition parties who had formed a 'coalition' around the disgraced former Mayor of Okahandja, Kristofina Paulus, to "unseat" SWAPO Party from that Constituency.

Paulus stood as a candidate for the Rally for Democracy and Progress, RDP. For SWAPO Party, this was a bless-



Businessman Titus Lukas. Photo by Anna Nakambale.

win the by-election hands down. Cde Booyis also trounced independent candidate, Ben Katamila, who was

visible on buildings and others structures, with Cde Booyis' portraits still hanging on walls and at shebeens at Five Rand



Kalahari Holdings (Pty) Limited Group of Companies

MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATION



The Board, Management and Employees of Kalahari Holdings (Pty) Limited Group of Companies congratulate Comrade Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of the Republic of Namibia and of the SWAPO Party, the Founding President, Dr Sam Nujoma, the entire Leadership and the rank and file of the SWAPO Party on the 50th Anniversary of the SWAPO Party.

The formation of SWAPO on the 18th April 1960 ushered a new era in the fight against foreign occupation. It brought the struggle for national independence and territorial integrity to new heights. It culminated in the attainment of independence on the 21st March 1990.

The peace and stability that we enjoy today have their genesis in the events that gave birth to SWAPO. We enjoy this great family of SWAPO Party members, supporters and sympathizers in celebration this historic day.

Dr. Kalumbi Shangula
Executive Chairman



Councilor Steve 'Biko' Booyis addressing one of the community meetings at Five Rand. Photo by Anna Nakambale.

ing in disguise. Paulus is very unpopular in Okahandja Constituency. In fact, much of the mess in Okahandja was caused by her during her tenure as Mayor.

Thus, it was not difficult for SWAPO Party candidate to

expelled from SWAPO Party a few weeks before the election for not heeding the Party's call for him to withdraw his candidature.

Campaign materials such as stickers and pamphlets are still

and Oshetu informal settlements.

Cde Booyis got most of the votes from these two settlements, each with a population of about 5000 people. He is still



Gracia Miller Kindergarten, far back, will soon get a new face-lift. Photo by Anna Nakambale.