



CITY OF HARARE

SUNSHINE NEWS

WEEK ENDING 20 MARCH 2026

HARARE AND CHEONAN MARK 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDSHIP IN TREE PLANTING CEREMONY HELD AT TOWN HOUSE

MARKSMANSHIP: HARARE SHOOTING CLUB SHINES AT ZNA COMPETITION

HARARE CONTINUES FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITIES AGAINST DRUG ABUSE (ZICADA)

CHAMBER SECRETARY ADV. CHIWAWA WELCOMES JUNIOR COUNCILLORS AT INDUCTION



Harare and Cheonan celebrate 10th friendship anniversary

By Richard Gandari

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr Jacob Mafume, on 16 March hosted a South Korean delegation at Town House, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Harare's strategic friendship with Cheonan City.

In his welcoming remarks, Mayor Mafume expressed profound joy in the mutual partnership between Harare and Cheonan.

"Our twining partnership has created an important platform for collaboration, exchange of ideas, mutual learning in areas that are central to effective urban governance and sustainable city development," he said.

Mayor Mafume further explained the reciprocal exchange of executive personnel between the two cities for learning purposes and also thanked the South Korean government for capacitating local governance in Zimbabwe.

Speaking at the same ceremony, Cheonan City Acting Mayor, Kim Seokpil hailed the decade of his city's mutual friendship with Harare.

"Since signing of our friendship agreement back in 2016, our two cities have maintained meaningful cooperation," he said.

Acting Mayor Seokpil also praised the international exchange programme established by his country's government.

Mayor Mafume and his visitors had time to exchange gifts and various memorabilia.

To immortalise the anniversary, Mayor Mafume and his Korean counterpart each planted an indigenous tree along Leopold Takawira Street.



Mayor Jacob Mafume (right) and Acting Mayor Kim Seokpil (left)



Ambassador Jae Kyung (2nd from left) flanked by his Embassy officials



Tree planting outside Town House to mark 10 years of friendship

The twinning arrangement has resulted in City officials travelling to South Korea to learn while sharing experiences in local government administration.

South Korea Ambassador to Zimbabwe, His Excellency, Park Jae Kyung, his Embassy officials, Harare City officials and Councillors also graced the occasion.



Cook-out competition showcases indigenous dishes heritage

By Kelvin Banda
and Lawson Chamisa

The City of Harare, partnered the Amai's Traditional District Cook-Out Programme and hosted a CBD cook-out competition at City Sports Centre, celebrating indigenous dishes.

Deputy Mayor, Cllr Rosemary Muronda said the competition showcased creativity, teamwork, and cultural exchange, beyond just cooking meals.

“Let’s celebrate our community and this cook-out brings us together and encourages us to use our indigenous dishes,” she said.

First Lady Dr. Auxillia Mnangagwa is leading the initiative, which encourages communities to utilise local resources and traditional cuisine.

Also present was Provincial Tourism Officer Fortunate Sunguro, who said, “This event highlights the social and economic benefits of gastronomy tourism, showcasing our culture, heritage, and culinary excellence through food.”

The programme encourages participants to use local Zimbabwean ingredients and natural resources, showcasing traditional dishes and promoting sustainable use of these products.

It also educates communities, empowers women, and preserves culture through skills development.



Deputy Mayor Cllr Rosemary Muronda (2nd from right) at the event



Deputy Mayor Muronda assessing the competitors



Competitors exhibiting their traditional cuisine during the event

The event drew several stakeholders, including officials from Harare, the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development, the Ministry of Tourism and Hospitality Industry, district officials and residents.

The groundbreaking cookout programme keeps promoting Zimbabwe’s culinary heritage, while nourishing communities.



City patches potholes and mends broken roads across the CBD

By Staff Reporter

The City of Harare is patching potholes and mending broken roads in the CBD and surrounding areas.

Teams from the Department of Works are moving around in trucks loaded with materials and manpower for the road works.

The City of Harare is pushing hard to ensure that potholes are patched throughout the city.

In the pictures, the City of Harare workers are seen patching potholes in the city center.





CITY OF HARARE CONTINUES TO FIGHT AGAINST DRUG AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

By Richard Gandari

The City of Harare last week joined the Zimbabwe Communities Against Drug Abuse (ZICADA) in a one-day substance misuse awareness campaign in Greendale.

Ward 9 Harare East Cllr Prince Mutebuka, speaking on behalf of the Mayor, Cllr Jacob Mafume, cautioned the youth from ever giving drugs a try.

“Drugs are like a trap that locks you in and throws away the key.

“One minute you’re fine then the next thing you know you’re stuck in a vicious cycle of addiction,” Cllr Mutebuka warned.

He expressed optimism, urging youths to turn their backs on drugs and embrace healthy lifestyles.

“The good news is, you have the power to say no by choosing a different path today.

“One that’s about living your best life, pursuing your passions, and being in control,” he said.

In her opening remarks, Head Education and Social Services, Mrs Lizzy Muchena, reaffirmed the City’s commitment to eradicate drug abuse while offering support to users in need of rehabilitation.

“As social workers and community leaders we understand that substance abuse is not only a personal struggle, but also a social challenge that affects families, schools, and the entire community.

“Our role is therefore not only to prevent drug abuse, but also to support, guide and rehabilitate those who may already be struggling with addiction,” Mrs Muchena said.

She also stated that the City of Harare offers developmental programmes equipping community members with practical



From left to right: Cllr Prince Mutebuka, Mrs Lizzy Muchena and Mrs Faith Raradza following proceedings during the event



Harare Municipal Police Band entertaining the audience

skills that promote self-reliance.

Speaking at the event, Greendale Residents and Rate Payers Association Chairperson, Mr Joseph Nyamunda, called on all stakeholders to unite in providing a welcoming environment for recovering addicts, to prevent them from relapsing into substance abuse.

In her vote of thanks, Harare Region 5 Regional Manager, Mrs Faith Raradza expressed hope that youth participants will embrace advice given and implement recommendations made.

The campaign was held under the theme, “Sober life, brighter future. Say no to drugs say yes to life.”

Also in attendance were officials from the Ministry of Youth Empowerment and Vocational Training, Ministry of Women’s Affairs, Community, Small to Medium Enterprises Development, and Ministry of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution.

Greendale residents, churches, civil organisations, and children from various Harare schools thronged the Greendale Sports Club where the Harare Municipal Police Band delivered a scintillating live performance.

Similar awareness campaigns have been held in Hatcliffe, Mabvuku and Dzivaresekwa.



City of Harare commemorates World Social Work Day

By Kelvin Banda

The City of Harare on 16 March commemorated World Social Work Day 2026 under the theme “Co-Building Hope and Harmony.”

The event highlighted the critical role social workers play in advocating for marginalized communities and strengthening social cohesion.

Since its inception in 2007, World Social Work Day has grown into a significant platform that not only promotes the profession but also celebrates the resilience, compassion, and unwavering commitment of social workers in Zimbabwe.

The event brought together various stakeholders such as the City social workers, officials from Mubtirapamwe, St Giles, Arrupe Jesuit University, the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Midlands State University, SayWhat, the Women’s University in Africa, Tebele Sign Language Center and social workers from across the country among others.



Social workers showcasing their services during the event



Massive turnout for the event held in the Harare Gardens

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Harare City Shooting Club shines at ZNA competition

By Liberty Chitakatira

Harare City Shooting Club brought home medals at the ZNA Chief of Staff All Comers Shooting Competition at Cleveland Ranges from March 2-13, 2026.

The club fielded three teams - two male and one female - and competed against 20 civilian teams, including Zim Parks and Wildlife, Safeguard, Securico, and Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals.

The shooters showed off their skills at 100m and 200m, using sitting, standing, and prone positions, and targeting fig11 and fig12 targets.

The results were impressive: Inspector Mutondo Reason (Traffic Enforcement) took top spot in the female category, while A/Superintendent Mashavave Ronald claimed the male title.

Sgt Godza Agnes (Harare Metro Police) took third place in the female category, and Sgt Chigudu came second in the male category.

The teams also excelled in falling plates, finishing second in the



The competitors taking their positions during the shooting contest



ZNA members presenting medals to the winners for marksmanship

finals.

Overall, Harare City Shooting Club dominated the competition,

taking top spot in the male team category and bringing home gold medals.



Women shooters taking aim at targets in the female category.

Advocate Chiwawa congratulates Junior Councillors

By Mercy Makuwatsine

Chamber Secretary Advocate Warren Chiwawa has congratulated and welcomed the selected 2026-2027 Harare Junior Councillors.

He was speaking during the Harare City Junior Council Induction Programme that ends on Thursday.

He said: “To our Junior Councillors, congratulations on your appointment. Your selection is a clear recognition of your leadership potential, dedication, and passion to serve your communities.

“You represent the voice, aspirations, and hopes of young people across our city. With this responsibility comes an opportunity to influence positive change and to inspire others.”

The Chamber Secretary urged the junior councillors to participate fully in their training programmes as they will gain a deeper understanding of local government systems, policies, and procedures.

“You will learn how the City of Harare functions, how decisions are made, and how you can actively participate in shaping the development of your communities.

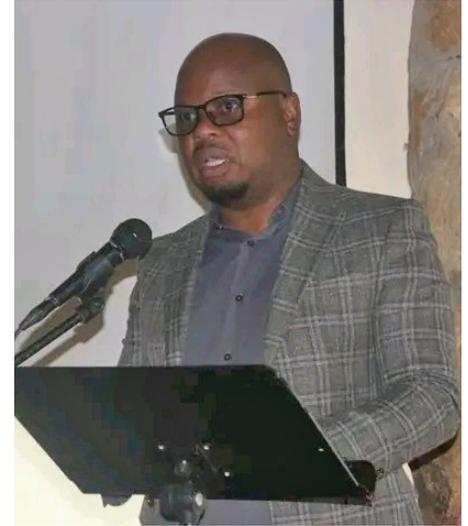
Advocate Chiwawa highlighted that the structure of the Junior Council mirrors that of the City of Harare’s senior council.

“It operates as a replica of the main council, with positions such as Junior Mayor, Deputy Junior Mayor, Junior Town Clerk, and Junior Councillors.

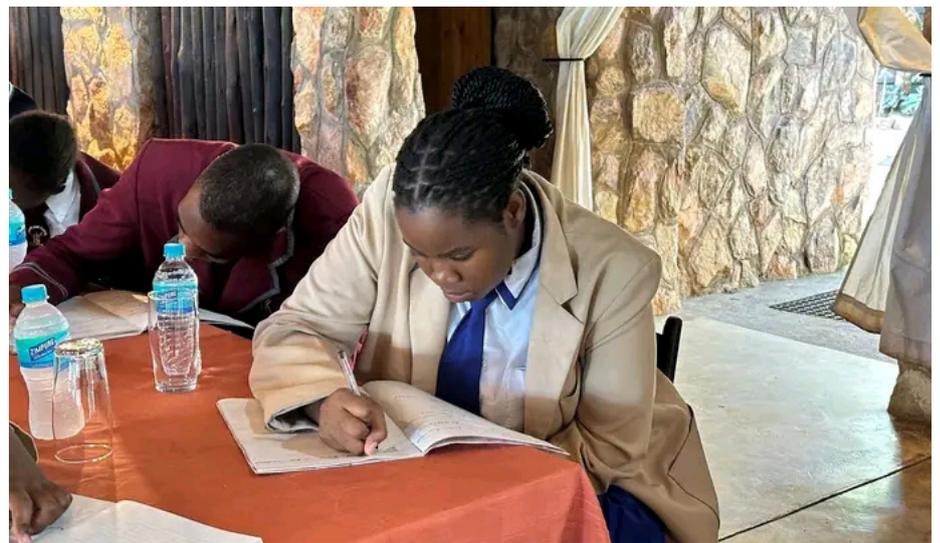
“This structure enables participants to gain first-hand experience of the processes, roles, and responsibilities involved in municipal governance,” said Advocate Chiwawa.

He said the training programme is key for the young leaders and the nation as it reflects shared commitment to nurturing responsible, informed, and patriotic young citizens who are ready to contribute meaningfully to the governance and development of their communities and the City at large.

The induction seeks to strengthen Junior Councillors’ understanding of their role as representatives of the youth and also designed to inculcate a strong sense of patriotism and civic responsibility.



Adv. Chiwawa at the induction



Junior Councillors fervently taking notes during the induction



Paying attention: Junior Councillors listening to expert presentations



Harare's weather a major draw, says Mayor Mafume

By Sani Mbofana

The Mayor of Harare, Cllr Jacob Mafume, has praised the City's weather, describing it as the best, saying it's "all the time" pleasant.

Addressing junior councillors undergoing training, he said Harare's climate is a major advantage, making it an ideal place to live.

"Some places are either too hot or too cold," he said, drawing from his experiences visiting various capitals in Africa, Europe, and beyond.

"In contrast, Harare's temperatures are generally warm, with only a couple of months seeing a drop, never dipping into the minus range," said Mayor Mafume.

His Worship's message to the Junior Councillors was clear: grow up to love and live in Harare.

He encouraged the young leaders to appreciate their city's charms and contribute to its development.

The Mayor's enthusiasm for Harare's weather and potential aims to inspire a sense of pride and ownership among the City's youth.



Mayor Jacob Mafume



Mayor Mafume with the Junior Councillors and City Officials

Junior Council key in youth leadership participation

By Staff Reporter

Information and Publicity Committee Chairperson Cllr Kudzai Kadzombe says the Junior Council is key as it ensures that young people are not mere observers in decision-making processes but active participants whose ideas and perspectives are valued.

Speaking during the Harare City Junior Council induction programme running from Tuesday to Thursday, Cllr Kadzombe said the initiative plays a vital role in increasing the visibility of youth in local governance.

Cllr Kadzombe urged the youth leaders to build leadership skills, develop confidence, and cultivate a spirit of teamwork.

"Remember that leadership is not about position, but service, accountability, and the willingness to make a difference," she said.

The main objective of this induction programme is to equip the junior councillors with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively carry out their duties and responsibilities as Junior Councillors.



Cllr Kadzombi



Acting Principal Communications Officer Mercy Makuwatsine (centre) with the Junior Councilors at the 3-day induction and training retreat