

# JULY DECEMBER TURNED 104

**Rustenburg/Chaneng** – Local centenarian July December, a grandfather and great grandfather, was born on 14 July 1913 July. He recently celebrated his 104th birthday. During his lifetime, December only had eyes for one woman, his wife, Mokwaithe Cathrine December, born on 1 February 1932, who has since passed on. The Decembers had 9 children, of which four are still living. The youngest of their nine children is a son, born in 1974. The couple kept trying until at long last having a boy.

In an interview with the *Platinum Weekly* newspaper, Desember says: "Because I am old, time is no longer on my side. I want to see all my children getting along and I want to see my son to come and live here when I am gone." December also has 16 grandchildren and an ever-growing brood

of great-grandchildren, currently standing at 17.

For December, what has stood out in his lifetime is his family, all his children and seeing his grandchildren growing up to be strong and independent people.

When asked what he was most grateful for, he replied: "Gardening... Being able to work in my vegetable garden is what I most enjoy. I usually plant all kinds of vegetables, but there is nothing now because of the goats coming in and eating my plants."

During his working days, December laid bricks and erected fences, making it himself from scratch on a freelance basis. He currently resides in Robega, Chaneng.

The *Platinum Weekly* would like to wish December a very happy birthday!



From left: 13-year old Omphemetse December (great-grandson); July December; and 23-year old Eunice December (granddaughter).

# Hospice inspires young dancers

**Rustenburg** – On Thursday, 29 June, dancers from Living Arts Dance & Club and Diverse Elements of Dance in Rustenburg, came together at the Hospice Training and Conference centre for auditions to be part of the 'Heartbeats for Hospice' dance team.

On Tuesday, 11 July 2017, some team members visited the Hospice Rustenburg offices where they attended a presentation given by one of the Hospice caregivers.

The Heartbeats team members are: Izante, Arche-Leigh, Ami, Mia, Chane, Chanelle, Chevelle, Danique, Jennifer, Di-aan, Mickayla, Shelbe, McKayla, Rozania, Oratilwe, Israel, Justine & Nikishia.

Here is what some of the dancers had to say after the presentation:

**Why do you want to be part of the Heartbeats Team?**

Size: "I want to help people in need; my dream has always been to change people's lives. Being part of the Heart Beats team gives me this opportunity."

Faith: "Hospice helps sick people spiritually and emotionally by uplifting spirits. Giving joy to those who are without is an amazing opportunity."

Izante: "I'm happy to be on the Heartbeats team where I can use my talent to help

others".

Chane: "It would be such an honour to help in the lives of little children and sick people, even in the smallest way".

Chanelle: "Hospice helped my grandfather last year after he suffered a stroke. Sister Daphne and sister Topsy even came out to our house at 02h00 in the morning to help him with medication and oxygen. I would love to give back to Hospice for the love and kindness they showed to my family."

**How did you first hear about Hospice?**

Danique: "Our school had a project where we filled bags with clothes and books. Today I learned a lot more about Hospice and what they do to help people. I can't wait to make a difference in the lives of sick and needy people. I learnt that Hospice helps all kinds of people with various terminal illnesses. They also help orphans."

Ami and Mia: "Our great aunt is very sick and we are so happy to think there is an angel like Ntombi that would care for her is she needed help. Hospice cares for everyone."

**What did you learn today?**

Jennifer: "The caregiver Ntombi encouraged us to be the best person we can be and to try and make an impact in the world. Ntombi is an angel."



Heartbeats team members from left: Ami & Mia, Chanelle, Ntombi (Hospice), Chane, Jennifer, Mckayla, Danique, Israel, Rozania, and Izante.



Heartbeats team attending a presentation by Ntombi, 'A day in the life of a Hospice care giver'.

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Diverse Elements of Dance dancer Chanelle speaks about her appreciation for Hospice who gave her family much needed support after her grandfather had a stroke.