







































































































### The Mercury Wednesday August 20 2008

# US sister city visits

#### MARIE STRACHAN

BUSINESS representatives from Milwaukee in the US state of Wisbursin visited uMhlathuze agair last week.

This came after a similar visit last year, as well as a reciprocal visit of business and municipal representatives from uMhlathuze, including the mayor, in March when a sister city relationship was aigned.

The visits had been initiated by Trade and Industry KZN to foster bilateral trade, potential investments between the province and the US Midwest. The latest mission was led by Alderman Joe Davis, South Africa's honorary consul for the State of Wisconsin.

He was accompanied by nine business didagates representing the following sectors:

- □ Property development and construction;
- Plarmaceuticals and health care;
- ⊇ Packaging (plastics);
- □ Financia services:
- ☐ Transport, freight and logistics; and
- □ Tourism.

Welcoming the US delegation, uMhlathuze mayor Zakhele Mngayi said it was exciting to witness the partnership and working relationship developing between the Zulutand Chamber of Commerce and Industry and business leaders from Milwaukee.

"This visit offers an opportunity for us to exchange ideas with



UMHLATHUZE mayor Zakhele Mnqayi (right) presents his town's flag to his counterpart from Milwaukee, Akterman Joe Davis

business of Milwaukoe and I hope that genuine interest will be garnered for investments and business relations will be established for fur ther economic relations of mutual interest to both countries and caties."

He said by developing existing infrastructure, opening new marleds and expanding the tourist sector, uMhiathuze would decrease its dependency on state resources.

One-on-one meetings followed in which various local business leaders met their counterparts in similar business spheres from Milwaukoe to discuss similarities and see If there were potential investment opportunities and links that could be fostered.



### INVESTMENT: U.S. BUSINESS DELEGATION AND INDIAN INSTITUTE VISIT PMB

#### THANDO MGAGA and KAVITH HARRILALL

TWO foreign business delegations arrived in Pietermaritzburg yesterday and took a tour of a variety of business, cultural and historical sites.

Msunduzi Municipality mayor Zanele Hlatshwayo, her deputy Mervyn Dirks and members of the Executive Committee (Exco) welcomed a delegation of potential investors from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at the city hall yesterday. A delegation of 56 business students from the Indian Institute of Planning & Management (IIPM), hosted by the UKZN Graduate School of Business and the Consulate of India, were also in Pietermaritzburg and toured local manufacturer Hulamin yesterday.

The U.S. delegation, led by Joe Davis Sr., who is an Alderman (equivalent of a councillor) in Wisconsin, comprised of business owners in the tobacco, construction and bottled water industry. Hlatshwayo said she hoped a good relationship would develop between Wisconsin and Pietermaritzburg and that it would lead to investments in the city.

Davis Sr. visited the city last November during the KZN trade and investment expedition. He promised the mayor that he would bring potential investors on his next visit.

"We are impressed with Pietermaritzburg. There is a memorandum of understanding that might be signed depending of the availability of land." he said.

He said that the business owners were looking for opportunities to invest in South Africa.

Manager of the group from India, Abhishek Kumar, said that although the IIPM has sent delegations to Europe in the past, this is their first visit to Africa.

"We would like our students to gain an understanding of business from a South African perspective ..." noted Professor Neeta Tripathi of the IIPM.



### agent carry the load

ager,



olding Properties assesse of Saville

y directly, the il obligation to and this means he buyer is ding contract tection. a critical role in t deal for both ier to entrust an lenging task of best price than it rour own case. ntain an air of nen negotiating if left to your

own devices you may find yourself in a heated negotiation that becomes personal and achieves very little. Often, sellers who have negotiated private sales in the past have later discovered that they would have obtained a better price for their home had they dealt with an agent because estate agents have a larger pool of buyers to whom they can expose properties through well-researched advertising.

Many buyers, having bought privately, have later discovered they paid too much for their property because they had very little knowledge on the pricing of properties on the market at the time.

Good estate agents are trained and up to date in regard to the latest legislation such as the National Credit Act; they can explain the clauses of any offer to purchase to both buyer and seller, particularly the purchase price, method of payment, date of occupation, occupational rental, contractual obligations (e.g. pest and electrical certificates), obtaining a mortgage bond, etc as well as a breakdown of all the costs involved in acquiring a property e.g. transfer duty, VAT, transfer fees, fees regarding registration of mortgage bonds and obtaining rates and levy clearance certificates.

So why compromise when it comes to investing in property? Hand over the stress and hard work to qualified professionals who, in addition, only require payment for these services when they deliver:

## US sister city visits

MARIE STRACHAN

BUSINESS representatives from Milwaukee in the US state of Wisconsin visited uMhlathuze again last week.

This came after a similar visit last year, as well as a reciprocal visit of business and municipal representatives from uMhlathuze, including the mayor, in March when a sister city relationship was signed.

The visits had been initiated by Trade and Industry KZN to foster bilateral trade, potential investments between the province and the US Midwest. The latest mission was led by Alderman Joe Davis, South Africa's honorary consul for the State of Wisconsin.

He was accompanied by nine business delegates representing the following sectors:

- ☐ Property development and construction; ☐ Pharmaceuticals and health
- care;
- O Packaging (plastics); ☐ Financial services:
- C Transport, freight and
- logistics; and
- O Tourism.

Welcoming the US delegation. uMhlathuze mayor Zakhele Mngayi said it was exciting to witness the partnership and working relationship developing between the Zululand Chamber of Commerce and Industry and business leaders from Milwaukee.

"This visit offers an opportunity for us to exchange ideas with



UMHLATHUZE mayor Zakhele Mnqayi (right) presents his town's flag to his counterpart from Milwaukee, Alderman Joe Davis

business of Milwaukee and I hope that genuine interest will be garnered for investments and business relations will be established for further economic relations of mutual interest to both countries and cities."

He said by developing existing infrastructure, opening new markets and expanding the tourist sector, uMhlathuze would decrease its dependency on state resources.

One-on-one meetings followed in which various local business lead ers met their counterparts in similar business spheres from Milwaukee to discuss similarities and see if there were potential investment opportunities and links that could be

w an overdraft can allow you to s and downs of your cash flow?



Standard Bank