

DECEMBER 2014

Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

Happy
New
Year!!!

FESTIVE MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

With Christmas around the corner, everyone is busy preparing for the festive season. Not only is this a time for festivities, but it is also the opportunity to show goodwill towards one another. It is the season to enjoy quality time with those near and dear to us, and to embody the message of the Messiah who brought light to a world filled with darkness. To spread this gift of light will not cost you anything and will not tire you!

Let us use this festive season to help rid the world of criminality, fear, injustice and self-serving pride. Let us be trustworthy and responsible in all we do, showing respect and being just in our dealings with one another. By doing this, we can work together towards a caring community in which good citizenship is a matter of course and not a chore.

We would like to wish all our residents and visitors a pleasant and safe holiday.

May we all enjoy a joyous and blessed Christmas time and may 2015 be filled with peace and prosperity.

Nicolette Botha-Guthrie
EXECUTIVE MAYOR



TOP-NOTCH PUBLIC AMENITIES READY TO WELCOME HOLIDAYMAKERS

Roderick Williams, Director: Community Services, gave the assurance that Overstrand's tried-and-tested operational plan will yet again ensure that residents and holidaymakers alike can look forward to enjoying safe, clean and well-maintained public amenities this festive season.

Temporary and seasonal workers have been appointed to help keep the beaches, ablution facilities, picnic sites, caravan parks, slipways and parking areas spick-and-span, while contractors have been appointed to, amongst others, operate kiosks and offer beach chairs for hire.

Grotto's Blue Flag-status will kick in on 1 December and remain effective till 31 March 2015. In the case of Hawston and Kleinmond, this status will come into effect on 15 December and remain effective till 15 January 2015.

Life saving and security services will be fully operational for the duration of the holiday season on the above beaches as well as at the two municipal swimming pools, namely the one in Hawston (next to the camp site) and the pool in Zwielihle.

Neville Michaels, Director: Protection Services added that municipal law enforcement and traffic officials will be extra visible and vigilant for the duration of the holiday season, while Overstrand's 24-hour control room contactable on 028 313 8000/8111 - is fully geared to handle any emergency situation day or night.

CLOSING OF OFFICES DURING HOLIDAYS

Municipal offices, including libraries, will close at 13:00 on both the 24th and 31st of December to re-open at 07:45 on Monday 29 December 2014 and 5 January 2015 respectively.

Essential services will continue to operate as normal.

EXPECT TOUGH TRADE-OFFS IN NEXT BUDGETING CYCLE

In her IDP review/budget directional speech delivered on 29 October 2014, Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie warned that the municipality will have to face some tough decisions if it is to balance the 2015/16 budget with the "vast needs" of its communities and the resources at its disposal to address those needs.

In preparing the budget, she said, Overstrand will need to be especially mindful of INCA's findings on the municipality's long-term financial sustainability and the consultancy's recommendation to curtail capital spending for the next three years.

Furthermore, cognisance should be taken of the dire implications Eskom's proposed tariff increase of 12,6% will have for the municipality's revenue given that most residents in Overstrand are under severe economic pressure and can hardly afford a hike in tariffs.

"Pleasing diverse needs will require wisdom from the Budget Steering Committee," she said, and urged all stakeholders to actively participate and engage in the platforms created for the 2015/16 IDP review and budget process.

On one point the Mayor remained firm, though: Overstrand will steadfastly pursue its vision to be a centre of excellence for all it serves and to create sustainable communities in a politically stable environment.

EFFECTIVE SEWERAGE TANKER SERVICE DEPENDS ON YOUR CO-OPERATION



Several areas in Overstrand are not connected to a sewer network, resulting in many residents

being dependent upon our tanker service to remove sewage from their premises. These services are placed under tremendous strain, especially during the holidays, simply because people wait too long before ordering a service.

By following these simple tips, you can help Overstrand improve its tanker services and save yourself considerable discomfort and even embarrassment:

- Try to order the service at least two days in advance: This will enable the supervisors to draw up an effective service schedule which will save time as well as fuel.

- Monitor the level of your conservancy tank closely: A simple device such as a ball valve on a stick placed inside the tank or an ultrasonic level indicator will help you to order the service timeously.
- Ensure that sewage tanker teams can gain access to the sewage suction point at all times: Remember, suction points ought to be placed on the erf boundary closest to the street.
- Discuss all potential problems with the operator at the time of ordering the service: Keep in mind that if a sewage tank cannot be pumped for whatever reason after a service has been requested, a call-out fee will be charged to recover costs.

Due to the nature of the service, it is not possible to deliver a service at a specific time, and delays may be experienced during long weekends and in the holiday season.

However, sewage tanker teams start early in the morning and will do their utmost to complete work scheduled for a particular day. Note, though, that under normal circumstances no tankers will be sent out before 06:00 or after 22:00.

SURE WE CAN FIND YOU IN AN EMERGENCY?

Unless your house or property number is visibly displayed, calling an ambulance, the fire brigade or the police in case of an emergency will be of no use at all. In fact, it could have fatal consequences!

Quite simply, if we can't find you, we can't assist, and valuable time, which could have been used to save a life or your property, will have been wasted trying to find you! This is a serious matter, people, and in terms of the applicable municipal by-law, you can be held accountable for any damages incurred as a result of not displaying the allotted number for the premises in the correct way. A premises - be it residential or commercial - must at all times display a number that is clearly visible and readable from a height of 1,5m above the centre line of the adjacent road or carriageway.

Thus, best check to see whether your street number has not become illegible, obliterated or defaced in any way. Please note that a street number project will be rolled out in Zwelihle in February 2015.

If you are unsure about your exact street address, check your municipal account: the name of the street and the number of your property should appear right below the account holder's name. In this regard, note that in the case of corner properties, the main entrance to the property will generally be regarded as the access address. If these details do not correspond with your physical address, please contact the helpdesk at the municipal offices in your area.

Should you require any further assistance with clarifying your street address, please call us - telephone numbers are available on page 3 - or send an email to enquiries@overstrand.gov.za and we will gladly assist.

ELUXOLWENI HOUSING PROJECT AN ALL-ROUND WINNER



The Pearly Beach: Eluxolweni low-cost housing project was crowned Best Housing Project of the Year in the under R125 000 per unit category by the Southern African Housing Foundation. This project, which aimed to help eradicate existing informal settlements by addressing the urgent housing backlog in the area, yielded 183 subsidised housing opportunities for qualifiers and 28 serviced sites for non-qualifiers, all on single residential erven.

From the word go, the project set out to create an integrated and sustainable development with the full cooperation of the beneficiaries. A Social Compact was elected to represent the interests of the community, while community workers did a sterling job to help survey informal settlements, reconcile the waiting list, process applications and settle the affected in a temporary relocation area.

Through subcontractors, more than 70% of local labour was utilised during development, while cost savings even enabled the tarring of roads - all well within budget. Following a zero-waste construction method, some of the technologies employed included specially designed monolithic roof trusses, a modular and expandable house design, insulated ceiling boards, prefabricated plumbing and provision for solar water heating ducts.

All round, the good partnership established between the community, the municipality and the implementing agent made this project a winner in more ways than one.



RESTORATION OF KLEINMOND'S ROADS UNDERWAY

With the upgrade of the water supply in certain parts of Kleinmond nearing finalisation, the next priority will be to repair and restore the affected roads. Unfortunately, the weather does not always play along, but the municipality has given its assurance that the matter is enjoying urgent attention.

Residents have already been notified that the resealing and rehabilitation of roads will be conducted in three phases which, if everything goes according to plan, ought to be completed by June

2015. Phase one involves patching, crack sealing and other preparatory work; phase two involves the resealing of roads, and in the final phase, road markings will be restored. Meanwhile, kerbing will be attended to as and where necessary.

All residents are called upon to exercise a bit of patience and to heed the traffic arrangements at the time of road closures. Any enquiries in this regard can be directed to the helpdesk in Kleinmond on 028 271 8431 or enquiries@overstrand.gov.za.

Conserve electricity, please



In view of the countrywide electricity crisis, Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie has made an appeal to all - visitors and residents alike - to conserve electricity as best they can during the coming festive season.

Her advice is to keep the use of electrical equipment consuming a lot of electricity such as air-conditioners and geysers to a minimum and to be a little more considerate in our use of so-called "small appliances": Leaving a laptop, smart phone or iPod plugged into a wall socket even when fully charged takes its toll, too. And then, of course, we should all get into the habit of switching off the

lights when we leave a room - and to unplug those darling fairy lights before we retire for the night.

Overstrand will do its utmost to keep residents and visitors abreast of the electricity situation. "If you haven't done so yet," Botha-Guthrie advised, "contact your local financial office or helpdesk to register. Your contact information will be treated as confidential and will not be disclosed to other parties, and we will alert you to the best of our ability of any pending emergency or outages".

WORTH KNOWING

• Check your contact details, or else...

It is up to you to ensure the contact details on your municipal are correct. Do keep in mind that an account settled after the 20th of the month could result in steps being instituted to recover outstanding monies, unless prior arrangements have been made.

• Municipal accounts can also be delivered via e-mail or MMS:

Handy for those who do not have a post box, but also an eco-friendly arrangement all of us ought to consider.

• Install the appropriate meter and save:

To prevent water losses, switch to a restricted flowmeter. And remember, pre-paid electricity is a lot cheaper than conventional metering.



Direct all requests and/or enquiries with regard to the above to your nearest municipal office or send an e-mail to enquiries@overstrand.gov.za. Do remember to quote your account number in all instances, though.



OAK presents the following over the festive season:

On Sunday afternoon **21 December 2014**, KERSKLANKE with PETRU WESSELS, CAREL TRICHARDT and KATRIEN HOLM (music) will highlight the joy, elation and wonder of Christmas - and also the sorrow, longing and loneliness - with words and sound.



On Sunday afternoon **4 January 2015**, renowned pianist from Texas, Gustavo Romero, will return to Hermanus to wow the Overstrand audience with yet another outstanding performance!



Both concerts will take place in the Civic Auditorium in Hermanus and commence promptly at 15:30. **For bookings, call BELLINI on 028 312 4988. Tickets cost R120 (R60 for students). Contact René du Plooy on 082 940 4238 for further information.**

BEACH PARKING: GROTTO & KLEINMOND

From 11 December till 19 January, the following fees will be payable between the hours of 08:00 and 16:00:

Bus drop-off (more than 14 seats)	R120.00
Parked buses: Municipal parking area per day	R190.00
Vehicles per day or part thereof	R15.00

Season tickets at a cost of R132 per ticket and valid for the period stipulated above are also available, while property owners, on presentation of a municipal account not older than three months, are entitled to two resident permits (valid for a year) per erf at a total cost of R60. These can be obtained from 17 November onwards from the following people:

- Hermanus Administration: Heidi Dignas 028 313 8135
- Kleinmond Administration: Carla Swartz 028 271 8411

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Office hour numbers:

Weekdays: 07:45 - 16:30

Hermanus switchboard	028 313 8000
Gansbaai switchboard	028 384 8300
Kleinmond switchboard	028 271 8400
Stanford switchboard	028 341 8500

After hour emergency numbers:

24-hour Emergency Control Room	028 313 8111
Fire Department	028 312 2400
Traffic Department	028 313 8111
Overstrand Law Enforcement	028 313 8111
Ambulance	10177
NSRI	028 312 3180
Marine & Coastal Management	028 313 2703
Hermanus Provincial Hospital	028 313 5200
Hermanus Private Hospital	028 313 0168
Hermanus Child Welfare	028 313 0831
Hermanus Animal Welfare	028 312 1281
Hermanus Police	028 313 5300
Gansbaai Police	028 384 0201
Stanford Police	028 341 0601
Hermanus Fire Brigade	028 313 8980
Gansbaai & Stanford Fire Brigade	028 384 8374
Kleinmond Fire Brigade	028 271 8449

Register your cell phone number now to receive timely information on, for example:

- Emergencies, e.g. veld fires, floods and traffic problems
- Scheduled interruptions when municipal electricity and water networks will undergo maintenance or repairs, in other words not Eskom-controlled interruptions
- Service interruptions due to strikes or public holidays; and
- Information on imbizos, community meetings and other municipal events.

Once the cost implications have been carefully considered, the system may possibly be extended at a later stage to include the following:

- Reminders on the payment of accounts and impending service terminations
- Reminders to pay traffic fines before being summonsed
- Reminders when vehicle licences are due for renewal
- Licence applications and approvals
- Collection of documents once these have been processed by the municipality; and

- Reminders of important appointments with the municipality

All you need to do is to call any municipal office (numbers in the masthead) or to pay a visit to a client service officer at one of these offices to ensure that your information has been included on the municipality's database. You can then ask him/her to put your name on the database.

Your contact information will be treated as confidential and will not be disclosed to other parties.



JOIN IN THE RECYCLING ROUTINE!



photo by-line: Hugh Tyrrell

We've made it easy, so everyone can do it.

Six out of ten households in the Overstrand area are already recycling. Join in to help create jobs, reduce costs of landfilling, and keep our coastline beautiful.

How to recycle

Your bags for recycling are free!

Get free bags to fill with your household recyclable items at the nearest municipal office.

If you live in an area with a municipal curbside collection service, you will receive a free bag every time that you put out a full bag of recyclables.

If your bag was inadvertently not replaced, you are welcome to collect a free bag(s) at the nearest municipal office.

No sorting needed

You don't need to separate the different items into different bags - just put paper, glass, tins and plastics into the one clear bag. All food scraps and other waste goes into the black refuse bag.

Where to recycle

On the pavement on refuse removal day

If you are a resident, or visitor, put out your bag of recyclables together with your refuse on the day that refuse regularly gets collected.

At the recycling drop-offs on your way out

If you're here on holiday and are leaving before refuse day occurs, please take your bags and drop them off before you leave or on your way out, at one of the clearly marked refuse drop-off spots.

General Information: Polystyrene is not recyclable in our system. Put refuse and recycling bags out before 7.30am in the morning only on the day of collection; **not** the day before! Each household is permitted one bin or four bags of household waste (which may only include one bag of garden refuse). Bins are not provided except in baboon areas, where baboon-proof bins are required. Garden waste can be taken to the drop-off and disposal of up to one ton of waste is free/not charged. Household hazardous waste (paint, thinners, pesticides, etc), e-waste can be taken to Stanford drop-off, Gansbaai landfill, Hermanus and Kleinmond transfer stations. Asbestos (R56.20 per sheet) can be taken to Hermanus Transfer Station.

NB: Voëlklip, Fernkloof, Kwaaiwater, Hermanus Heights, Eastcliff east of Fairways, Rooi Els, Pringle Bay, Betty's Bay and the other areas mentioned above are Declared Problem Areas regarding baboons. Baboon-proof bins are therefore required. These are obtainable from the Municipality at a cost.

Recycling / Refuse Removal Day:

Administration	Area	Day
Hangklip -Kleinmond	Kleinmond, Betty's Bay, Pringle Bay, Rooi Els,	Monday
	Proteadorp, Extension 6, Overhills, Mountain View	Tuesday
Hermanus	Vermont, Fisherhaven, Voëlklip	Monday
	Onrus, Chanteclair, Berghof, Sandbaai, Hemel-en-Aarde	Tuesday
	Zwelihle, Mt. Pleasant	Wednesday
	Westcliff, Northcliff, houses in the CBD, Hermanus Industrial Area	Thursday
	Hawston, Eastcliff, Hermanus Heights, Kwaaiwater	Friday
Stanford	Stanford	Thursday
Gansbaai	Pearly Beach, Buffeljagsbaai, Eluxolweni	Monday
	De Kelders, Masakhane, Beverly Hills	Tuesday
	Franskraal	Wednesday
	Kleinbaai, Baardskeerdersbos	Thursday
	Gansbaai, Masakhane, Beverly Hills, Blompark	Friday

Recycling creates jobs in our community, saves on landfilling costs and keeps our coastline beautiful. Your contribution is very important - every bit helps



If you have any queries or suggestions, telephone: Gansbaai 028 384 8300; Stanford 028 341 8500; Hermanus 028 313 800 and Kleinmond 028 271 8400. For more information, visit www.overstrand.gov.za