

NOVEMBER 2016

**24-hour Emergency Fire Brigade** 028 313 8000/8111  
028 312 2400

# Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

## STALWARTS SHINE AT GALA EVENT IN THEIR HONOUR

On Tuesday evening 4 October 2016, Overstrand Executive Mayor Rudolph Smith honoured those achievers who are making a difference in their communities at a glitzy Annual Night of Achievers Awards ceremony.

The event, held in the Overstrand Auditorium, recognises individuals who have rendered outstanding services and includes awarding the Mayoral Trophy for Environmental Conservation, announcing Overstrand's Woman of the Year and awarding certificates to Achievers of Excellence.

**This year, the following Achievers of Excellence were recognised:**

- **LES ABBOTT** (for his commitment and exceptional work involving the 'Hermanus Night Shelter')
- **PAT and LORRAINE DIEDERICHs** (for years of dedication to the building and management of 'Wortelgat', a magnificent and well-known faith-based camping facility)
- **CAROLYN MARTIN** (for her contribution to establishing Hermanus as one of South Africa's best wine tourism destinations)
- **TANYA TIEFENTHALER** (for her exceptional personal flair as brand ambassador, who actively promotes Hermanus' assets on social media) and
- **CORNETTE ALDENE HULL** (for her tireless efforts to unite the Hangklip-Kleinmond communities with her involvement in the recording of 'oral history' about the area and encouraging transformation through sports events aimed at dissolving racial divisions).

**Also acknowledged for their valuable contribution in the category environmental conservation were:**

- **MEAGHAN McCORD** (South African Shark Conservancy)
- the **WHALE COAST CONSERVATION** team (Sherraine van Wyk, Anina Lee and Rob Fryer) and
- **KIM McLEAN** (also known as the Shark Lady).
- **CHRIS GELDENHUYS** walked off with the coveted Mayoral Trophy for Environmental Conservation. Geldenhuys was nominated for his exceptional voluntary work and commendable contribution towards dune reformation and environmental conservation in Pringle Bay. Chris and his team are currently undertaking a project involving the utilisation of natural seasonal sand movement, driven by the prevailing winds, to increase the resilience of the coastal zone in keeping with the predicted rise in the sea-level and the increase in wave height. This project will act as a case study for the Western Cape and, possibly, South Africa.

**Other nominees for the Woman of the Year award were:**

- **MARY FAURE** (for her outstanding contribution to tourism, in addition to cultural and economic development as the founder and champion of the FynArts Festival)
- **PAT VAN SCHOOR** (for her contributions and extensive fundraising efforts on behalf of various charitable and non-profit organisations within the Hermanus community)
- **EUGENE OCTOBER** (for her selfless efforts and contributions towards uplifting and empowering the women in Hawston)
- **SABINE JANTJIES** (for her selfless efforts in the support and enrichment of struggling families in Hawston)
- **LIGHTHOUSE TO LIGHTHOUSE** (for the outstanding efforts by a group of women to raise funds and awareness for various charitable causes and associations)
- **LIZA VAN COPPENHAGEN** (for her contributions to developing small business initiatives and promoting charitable fundraising) and
- **DR MILICENT PETERSE RINK** (for her longstanding service to alleviating poverty and helping abused women and children).
- **GERDA WILLIAMS** was proclaimed Overstrand's Woman of the Year. She is the chairperson of the Pearly Shell Care Centre and looks after the finances of the Overstrand Care Centre. She received recognition for her selfless contribution and voluntary and dedicated service to the Hawston community through her involvement with various charities.



**Back (from left to right):** Pat van Schoor; Pat Diederichs; Lorraine Diederichs, Less Abbott; Meagan McCord; Anina Lee, Chantelle Louskitt on behalf of Mary Faure; Salomè Geldenhuys on behalf of Carolyn Martin.

**Front (from left to right):** Sebina Jantjies; Tanya Tiefertalder; Chris Geldenhuys; Mayor Rudolph Smith; Gerda Williams; Kim "Sharklady" McLean; Dr Millicent Peterse Rink; Judith Petim on behalf of Lighthouse to Lighthouse

"It's untamed, it's beautiful ... and it's geared."

## OVERSTRAND DESERVING HOST OF SEVERAL UPCOMING SPORTING EVENTS

Solomzi Madikane, Overstrand's Director Economic Development and Tourism, recently announced that Hermanus will, yet again, serve as departure point for Stages 1 and 2 of the 2017 Cape Epic mountain-bike race.

This gruelling race that spans eight days and attracts television viewers from all over the world covers a route of some 700 km that traverses parts of the most spectacular hills and valleys in the Western Cape. Overstrand is one location that has earned its place amongst those who can contribute towards making this race the "be all and end all" of mountain-bike racing events.

It should, therefore, come as no surprise that the NISSAN TrailSeeker Western Cape mountain-biking series will also be hosted here in future, and that the magnificent Hemel-en-Aarde Valley will, yet again, host the Wines-2-Whales mountain-biking events later this year.

But mountain-biking is not all Overstrand has to offer, Madikane added. "Overstrand is proud to announce that the 2017 Global Challenge ladies golf tournament will be hosted by the Hermanus Golf Club from 24-26 February."

"Sport tourism has the potential to boost our local economies and, given Overstrand's unique location, I am of the opinion that these events can be harnessed to help ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of our communities," Madikane concluded.

## Overstrand beaches retain coveted Blue Flag status



Three of Overstrand's most popular beaches Grotto, Hawston and Kleinmond yet again earned Blue Flag status for the upcoming 2016/17 holiday season which opens officially on 1 November 2016.

According to Overstrand horticulturist and Blue Flag coordinator, Lauren Rainbird, the municipality has done its utmost to ensure that both local and international tourists will have the privilege of enjoying pristine beaches where everyone can make most of all the amenities at their disposal.

The World Tourism Organisation regards a Blue Flag as an international eco-label signifying that the facility is clean, environmentally sound and adheres to international safety and other tourist standards. As part of a related national job creation programme, Blue Flags: Working for Tourism, 200 stewards are currently undergoing specialised training. Eleven of these have been allocated to Overstrand and are expected to take up their duties in the area shortly.

Blue Flag status is awarded seasonally and municipalities must apply annually to renew the status of their beaches. Interestingly, amongst the 4 300 beaches worldwide, South Africa achieved Blue Flag status for 45 beaches, boats and marinas for the 2016/17 season. The Western Cape attained the highest number of Blue Flag sites with 29 of its beaches, all eight boats and four out of five marinas being awarded this coveted status.

Notably, too, Slashfin - a shark-cage diving vessel operated by Marine Dynamics - as well as the two whale-watching vessels operated by Dyer Island Cruises - aptly named Whale Whisperer and Dream Catcher - have also earned their Blue Flag status.

## Municipal Manager's Contract Renewed



**Coenie Groenewald**

During a scheduled monthly meeting held on Monday 26 September 2016, Council unanimously agreed that the service contract of the incumbent Municipal Manager, Coenie Groenewald, be extended for a further five-year period with effect from 1 January 2017, or until such time as the incumbent reaches retirement age.

In this regard, Council is well within its rights given that the Municipal Systems Act prescribes that a municipal manager may be appointed for a fixed term of five years.

Given that all Councillors elected to Overstrand's newly constituted Council are in agreement that Groenewald fully complies with the prescripts as per the Municipal Systems Act particularly in as far as core competencies, work-related experience and qualifications are concerned, his re-appointment should come as no surprise.

On learning of his re-appointment, the humble and somewhat shy public official simply remarked that he will do his best to live up to people's expectations: "Being the Municipal Manager has been the highlight of my career. Despite many constraints and having to face the challenges of the negative impact of the global economy, and other problems facing local government and this municipality, I am confident that the Overstrand Municipality remains steadfastly committed to rendering quality municipal services to all our communities", he added.

## Supplementary immunisation campaign to protect children against polio

Polio is a highly infectious virus that mainly affects children under three years of age and spreads rapidly from one person to another. One in every 200 children infected with the virus becomes paralysed, and as there is no cure for polio, vaccination against this disease is imperative.

From 31 October to 18 November 2016, the Western Cape's Department of Health will be rolling out a supplementary immunisation campaign aimed at children from birth till 59 months. Parents are urged to take their children to the nearest clinic or one of the campaign posts that will be set up in various areas within communities during this period.

Alternatively, parents' whose children attend a crèche, preschool, children's home or day-care centre can sign a consent form to have the oral polio vaccine administered by a representative from the department at one of these facilities.

Do note that the vaccine administered during this campaign is only supplementary, and children should still receive their routine vaccinations as indicated by their local clinic or paediatrician.

For more information about the campaign and the vaccination posts available in your community, contact your nearest clinic. Alternatively, call Natasha Peterson on 082 313 7487 or send an e-mail to [Natasha.Peterson@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:Natasha.Peterson@westerncape.gov.za).

## Pringle Bay's long-awaited fire station now fully operational



Following years of planning and dreaming, volunteer fire-fighters from Pringle Bay and surrounds finally took occupancy of their brand-new fire station on 29 September 2016.

Boasting a training room/boardroom, sleeping quarters, kitchen, small

office and storage area, this station - located adjacent to the community hall on Buffels Road - can now serve as a regional emergency centre to assist with fires in Betty's Bay, Pringle Bay and Rooiels. Initiated six years ago as a ward-specific project by the ward committee, several unforeseen hiccups and hitches like escalating building costs, a shortage of funds, adverse weather conditions, contractual interruptions and supply chain delays caused the project to drag on much longer than planned.

Nevertheless, at the time of the fire station's official inauguration, Executive Mayor Rudolph Smith lauded the community for their commitment to seeing this project through, "despite the blood, sweat and tears".

"Initiatives such as these will go a long way towards creating safer communities and serve as an example of what can be accomplished when stakeholders and the community join hands with their local authorities in an attempt to make the most of the limited resources at our disposal," he said. Functioning under the auspices of Overstrand's centralised disaster management centre located in Hermanus, Pringle Bay's fire station currently boasts eight volunteers and one truck.

**Anyone in the vicinity of Hangklip, Pringle Bay or Betty's Bay who wishes to report an emergency, can call 028 312 2400 or, alternatively, 028 313 8111 - the latter being Overstrand's 24/7 emergency number.**

## OVERSTRAND'S RESORTS ENTER THE DIGITAL AGE

With effect from 1 December 2016, anyone who wishes to book a camp/caravan site or a chalet at the Onrus, Palmiet or Kleinmond camping sites can do so online via Overstrand's official website.

CiMSOBusinessSolutionsAfrica, provider of hotel, lodging and resort software solutions, was selected as the on-line reservation solution provider for Overstrand Municipality's resorts. With their assistance, Overstrand can now offer campers and caravanners a fully integrated on-line synchronised reservation solution that will enable them to:

- Check chalet and/or stand availability on-line, from anywhere and at any time;
- Browse on-line pictures of the chalets/stands before making a reservation; and
- Be added to waiting lists immediately should availability be an issue.

As an add-on, this software solution also enables the municipality to communicate with campers and/or caravanners who have already checked in at any time of the day or night, which is especially reassuring in case any type of emergency should arise.

The initial roll-out of the project will be finalised by 30 November this year, and it is envisaged that it will soon be extended to also include the Gansbaai caravan park and Hawston's day-camping facility.

